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A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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THIS JOURNAL is regularly supplied by subscription to the whole of the Members of SIXTEEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES in the British Empire. The associate Journal, *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, published at Melbourne and Sydney, is also supplied to all Australasian subscribers.

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CIRCULARS AND PRICE-LISTS.

HOW TO DISTRIBUTE THEM TO THE DRUG-TRADE.

MANY of the best advertisers in the drug-trade have endorsed our view that it is more effective as well as cheaper to distribute circulars and price-lists stitched up in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* than sending them singly by post. We make such insets in the C. & D. notable by the fact that we only receive them twice a year for distribution, and, of course, we ensure that they get into the hands of the right people. Sending them singly by post is more or less (principally "more") a lottery, gives immense office trouble, and costs at least three times more than our charge for inserting them in the C. & D. We would advise those who think of the matter to write to our Publisher for particulars about the next distribution—the Summer number, July 28, 1900. He will not only give particulars about the charges, but what artistic assistance he can in designing or arranging insets. The date is two months distant, but near enough for prompt instructions to printers.

Summary.

IT is the Welcome bird that flutters in the pharmaceutical aviary this week (p. 926).

FURTHER HINTS for botanical histologists are given in the Students' Corner (p. 934).

AN "interesting and attractive young lady" has been fined at Linlithgow for selling poison (p. 936).

THE RESULTS of clinical trials of antialcoholic serum are described by our Paris correspondent (p. 915).

AN INQUIRY into the British patent-laws is to be made, and a committee has been appointed (p. 912).

DR. JEAN HANEAU is now claimed as the introducer of the anti-septic system of surgery in 1834 (p. 915).

A CHEMIST'S EXPERIENCE in Making during the siege is recorded by a chemist who went through it (p. 921).

SIR F. ABEL AND PROFESSOR W. R. DUNSTAN are members of the new Commercial Intelligence Comm'ttee (p. 912).

KRAYSER mentions some interesting facts, chiefly statistical, regarding Army and Navy Store trading (p. 927).

A SOUTH KENSINGTON CHEMIST has been rebuked by the Fulham Coroner for giving a carman a cough-mixture (p. 912).

WE REPORT pretty fully the General Medical Council-meeting, and give portraits of some who took an active part in it (p. 922).

AN ADDITION to the art of alchemy is printed on p. 916. It is a picture by Mr. Newton Braby, exhibited in the Royal Academy.

MR. GASSON, a Kimberley chemist, has been interviewed in the C. & D. office, and his impressions are recorded with pictures on p. 921.

OIL OF PEPPERMINT is specially interesting just now, because the crops in America and Japan promise to disturb the markets (p. 930).

TWO THOUSAND of the Sunlight Soap people had their bean-feast in Paris last week, at a cost of 7,000*l.* to their employers (p. 915).

NEW REGULATIONS for registration as medical students have been adopted by the General Medical Council, 16 being fixed as the minimum age limit (p. 925).

WE REPORT the annual meeting of Messrs. W. J. Bash & Co. (Limited), held on Thursday, when the removal of the city office to Ash Grove was announced (p. 938).

THE NOTTINGHAM CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION reports a great falling-off in support of their educational system during the past session, and a financial loss (p. 935).

THE BIRMINGHAM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH is suing the Chairman of the local Grocers' Association for libel arising from the recent Demerara sugar case (p. 913).

THE GROWTH in the stringency of the Minor examination is traced in an article on p. 930. An irresponsible critic suggests half-yearly examinations as a remedy for failures (p. 926).

THE FORFARSHIRE CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION has had a successful annual meeting at Montrose, which is reported on p. 917. They wish the Pharmaceutical Conference to visit Dundee in 1902.

A CORRESPONDENT who was with the army at Colenso sends a photograph of military convalescents reading the C. & D., and other pharmaceutical correspondents "at the front" tell of their experience (p. 919).

THERE is an unusually dull tone about the drug-markets this week, and no improvement is looked for until after the holidays. German camphor is $\frac{1}{2}$ d. dearer. Citric acid is firmer, and jalap is dearer. Quinine is lower (p. 943).

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL considers advertising by dentists infamous conduct in a professional respect, and has removed two names from the Dentists' Register for doing it (p. 922). The law of the matter is discussed on p. 928.

AN APPEAL under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act against a decision by the Luton Magistrates that the contents of several bottles of camphorated oil (constituting a purchase) should be mixed before division has been dismissed by the High Court (p. 942).

THE BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA occupies some space in this issue (p. 932). The Indian and Colonial Addendum is advancing; the Medical Council has favourably responded to the Belgian Government's invitation as to the compilation of an International Pharmacopoeia, and (better than all) has made overtures to the U.S. Pharmacopoeia authorities for co-operation in pharmacopoeia revision.

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The chemists of Dunmow will close their places of business on Wednesdays at 1 o'clock during the summer.

Cowes Urban District Council has accepted the tender of the United Alkali Company for chloride of lime at 5s. 6d. per cwt.

Mr. R. J. Newby, chemist's manager, Wadebridge, was found drowned on May 23. It is presumed that he had fallen into the river whilst proceeding home at night.

Archibald Rothwell (19), a packer at Rothwell's bleach-works, Elton, took some Epsom salts, as he supposed, which were kept at the works, and died in Bury Infirmary two hours afterwards.

The establishment carried on by Messrs. Andrews Brothers, chemists and druggists, at the corner of Bridge and Colegate Streets, Norwich, was on May 29 offered for sale by auction, but withdrawn at 650/.

The members of the Drug Club, at the invitation of Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co., dined in Liverpool on Wednesday evening. Mr. F. Harwood Lescher is president of the Club, and the change to the provinces is considered to be rather a good innovation.

Messrs. Bowman, Thompson & Co. have intimated to their workmen that everyone who has been in their employ for twelve months or over, for whom no work can be found at any of the works of Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co. (Limited), will receive a gratuity of one week's wages. The ammonia-soda department is to be shut down on June 9 for reconstruction.

Parliament adjourned for the Whitsuntide recess on Monday, May 28, to resume on June 14. Mr. Balfour intimated before the House rose that the hopes of the Government in regard to the Companies Bill were expressed in the Queen's Speech, and Mr. Brodrick mentioned that the new French import tariff is not a retaliation for the countervailing duties on sugar.

Mr. Woolmer White, of the Timothy White Company, Portsmouth, recently offered to raise a company of 100 men for the 3rd (Duke of Connaught's Own) Volunteer Battalion Hampshire Regiment, and to command the new company. His offer has been accepted, and seventy-four employees of the firm were attested and entered, and it is expected the full strength will be made up in a few days. Drills commenced this week.

Mr. Gowthorpe, chemist and druggist, who, with his wife, has been arrested at Newcastle, Natal, for alleged high treason, is a native of Hutton Cranswick, near Driffield. When the Boers entered Newcastle the opposition chemist left, but Mr. Gowthorpe elected to remain. His wife made the flag which floated over Newcastle in token of its occupation by the Boers, and he is alleged to have acted as agent for the Transvaal before the war. Bail has been fixed at 1,000/.

British Commercial Agents.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has appointed Mr. Henry Arthur Cooke, Mr. John C. Milligan, Mr. E. Seymour Bell, and Mr. E. H. Melville to be British commercial agents in Russia, Switzerland, the United States, and Central America respectively for an experimental period of two years. Mr. Cooke's address is Malo-Znamenski per., House Mishin 2, Moscow. The headquarters of the other commercial agents have been fixed at Zurich, Chicago, and Guatemala.

Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Board of Trade have appointed the following gentlemen to be a committee for the purpose of advising the Board on the work of the Intelligence Branch of the commercial, labour, and statistical departments of that office which was

established last autumn as a result of the recommendations made by the late Departmental Committee on Commercial Intelligence—namely, Sir Courtenay Boyle, K.C.B., Permanent Secretary to the Board of Trade (Chairman); Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G., Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Labour, and Statistical Departments (Deputy-Chairman); the Right Hon. Lord Avebury, Sir Frederick Abel, Bart., K.C.B., Sir Henry G. Bergne, K.C.M.G., Sir Charles E. Bernard, K.C.S.I., Mr. Frederick Brittain (ex-President of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce), Mr. T. Craig Brown (of the South of Scotland Chamber of Commerce), Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., Mr. C. A. Harris, C.M.G., Sir Alfred Hickman, M.P., Mr. W. H. Holland, M.P., Sir Albert K. Rollit, M.P., and Mr. G. W. Wolff, M.P. The Committee is appointed for five years. Mr. G. J. Stanley, of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade, who acted as Secretary to the Departmental Committee above referred to, has been appointed Secretary of this Advisory Committee. The first meeting of the Committee has been summoned for June 14.

The Patents Acts.

The Board of Trade have appointed Sir Edward Fry (Chairman), Sir Richard Webster, Bart., G.C.M.G., Sir Edward Carson, Q.C., M.P., Sir William H. Houldsworth, Bart., M.P., Mr. F. J. S. Hopwood, C.B., C.M.G., Mr. S. E. Spring-Rice, C.B., Mr. J. Fletcher Moulton, Q.C., M.P., Colonel Thomas W. Harding, Mr. Edward Carmichael, and Mr. Herbert Hughes to be a committee with the following reference:—

While her Majesty's Government do not think it desirable and do not propose to establish any general system of examination as to the novelty of inventions in respect of which applications for letters patent are made, and do not require any inquiry into any such system of examination, the committee hereinbefore appointed is to inquire into the working of the Patents Acts with reference to the following questions:—

(1) Whether any, and, if so, what, additional powers should be given to the Patent Office to (a) control, (b) impose conditions on, or (c) otherwise limit the issue of letters patent in respect of inventions which are obviously old, or which the information recorded in the office shows to have been previously protected by letters patent in this country;

(2) Whether any, and, if so, what, amendments are necessary in the provisions of Section 22 of the Patents, &c., Act, 1883; and

(3) Whether the period of seven months priority allowed by Section 103 of that Act to applicants for letters patent under the International Convention may properly be extended, and, if so, on what conditions.

Mr. Arthur Paget, barrister-at-law, is to be Secretary to the committee.

Prescribing by Chemists.

At Fulham on May 26, Mr. Coroner Drew held an inquest on the body of Robert Clark (36), a carman, who was found dead in bed, after taking some cough-mixture containing ether and chlorodyne, which he had obtained during the winter from Mr. James Dickson Stewart, chemist, 100 Richmond Road, South Kensington.

Mr. Stewart deposed that deceased asked witness to give him something to relieve his cough, which he did. Witness himself selected the remedy, but he did not know that deceased's heart was weak.

The Coroner: That comes under prescribing.

Witness: A little cough-mixture like that?

The Coroner: You gave chlorodyne, which the doctor says was injurious, although it did not accelerate the death. You have constituted yourself an apothecary. You apparently give the mixture indiscriminately, without knowing the condition of the person. Chemists were not educated to diagnose internal disease, and it was certainly a very injudicious action on the part of Mr. Stewart. He recognised the difficult position in which chemists were placed, because if one chemist did not supply it someone near by would. Still, the law said it must not be done.

Bits from Birmingham.

The Consultative Medical and Surgical Board has got to work and appointed Dr. H. W. Irvine as consulting-physician. The first week, which has just passed, has proved satisfactory many of the artisan-class having taken advantage of the means to consult a high-class general consultant in medicine

at a fee of 10s. 6d. per visit. Should any deficit in the scheme arise, one-third is to be borne by Mr. A. Chamberlain and two-thirds by the Working-men's Hospital Association. Who will dispense the prescriptions supplied?

It will be observed by pharmacists of this city that they may derive some benefit by studying the methods adopted by the Grocers' Association to protect themselves from unjust prosecutions under the Food and Drugs Act. They propose to form a jury of grocers to confer with the authorities in an amiable way when such important questions arise as the one reported in the last *C. & D.* concerning aniline-dyed cane-sugar in imitation of Demerara sugar. That a firm of high standing should be put, in conjunction with the city authorities, in such a position as to incur the expenditure of over 200%, appears to call for some conference of some sort to prevent its recurrence. Meanwhile Mr. George Bolton, the Chairman of the Grocers' Association, has expressed his opinion of Dr. Hill, the M.O.H. At a meeting of the Association, held on May 14, he said, "However good a medical officer of health Dr Hill might be, the grocers knew from experience he was not a man they should be subjected to. In this case he went into the box and swore that Demerara crystals should be yellow throughout, and not dyed, whereas the evidence was overwhelming against such a theory. Dr. Hill ought to be brought to book." To that Dr. Hill has responded by serving Mr. Bolton with a writ for libel.

Channel Island Chat.

Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co. of Leeds, have registered their trade-marks in Jersey.

Messrs. De la Rue, of States Arcade, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, are adopting electric power for their mineral-water factory, as had previously been done by Mr. Collenette (Truchot).

Mr. Jesse Boot, of Boots (Limited), some three years since presented the Jersey Kolapore Rifle Club with a handsome challenge vase, value forty guineas, also a money gift of 10% for three years. The vase, which "becomes the property of the person who shall have won it in three consecutive years, or in any four years," has been won by three different shots, so Mr. Boot has expressed his intention of giving 10% for two years more.

Dr. Emerson's Photographs.

A selection of about 150 photographs by Dr. P. H. Emerson is on view during the month at the house of the Royal Photographic Society, 66 Russell Square, W.C. The photographs are illustrative of the natural beauties of the Norfolk Broads, the photographing and describing of which district are Dr. Emerson's speciality. The exhibition is gratuitous, presentation of card being all that is required to gain admission.

Presentation.

The Optical Society held a social meeting at the Holborn Restaurant, W.C., on May 31. A feature of the evening was the presentation of a 5-inch equatorially-mounted astronomical telescope to Mr. W. H. E. Thornthwaite, Past-Master of the Spectacle-makers' Company. The telescope has been subscribed for by members of the Spectacle-makers' Company in recognition of Mr. Thornthwaite's services "in promoting the welfare of the optical trade and the advancement of optical science." At the same time a beautiful pair of opera-glasses was presented to Mrs. Thornthwaite.

Cricket.

Aldersgate C.C. (S. Maw, Son & Thompson) *v.* Longford C.C. (Ryland & Sons, Limited).—Played at Denmark Hill on May 26, and resulted in a win for the former. Scores: Aldersgate C.C., 90; Longford C.C., 83.

Drug League Match.—Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. C.C. *v.* Javy, Hills & Co. C.C.—This match was played at Bowes Park on Saturday, and B. W. & Co.'s team won with a score of 116 runs to 49. Gordon Cowen (49), Purton (26), for the winners, and Collins (20 not out), for the defeated, atted well, and Mace, for the winners, took five wickets for runs.

Johnsen & Jørgensen C.C. *v.* Allenbury's C.C.—This match at Willesden, on May 26, ended in favour of

Allenbury's with the large margin of 55 runs. Scores: Johnsen & Jørgensen C.C., 48; Allenbury's C.C., 103. Hoskins (21) batted well for the defeated side, and Lee Roberts (47) for the winners.

We omitted to state last week that in the match played between Allenbury's C.C. and the Allen C.C. (Stafford Allen & Co.), the latter could have claimed a drawn game, but owing to the sportsmanlike action of Mr. Malcolm Allen (captain) the game was continued after the time for drawing stumps, with the result that Allenbury's C.C. won.

Boots' Athletic Sports.

The fifth annual athletic meeting of the Sports Club associated with the firm of Messrs. Boots (Limited) was held on Saturday, May 26, at West Bridgford, Nottingham. There was a large company present, and the results of the various events were as follows:—

200 Yards Youths' Race.—Dunsmore, 1; Knott, 2; Miles, 3.
100 Yards Flat Handicap.—Buxton, 1; Streets, 2; Young, 3.
A good race, won by 2 feet; inches between second and third.
440 Yards.—A. H. Varney (25 yards), 1; F. Rivers (scratch), 2.
S. Gunn (35 yards), 3.
Half-mile Bicycle.—Byron, 1; Gunn, 2.
Football Dribbling Race.—Gunn, 1; Phipps, 2.
80 Yards Sack Race.—Harrison, 1; F. Dunsmore, 2; Marriott, 3; Cnnts, 4.
100 Yards Hurdles.—Weightman, 1; J. T. Elliott, 2. Elliott ran well from scratch, and Weightman (8 yards start) only got home by a few inches.
Obstacle Race.—J. Peel, 1; Ainsworth, 2; Cross, 3; Mee, 4.
One Mile Bicycle.—Byron, 1; A. Webb, 2.
High Jump.—Moran, 1 (4 feet 7½ inches); Bingham, 2 (4 feet 6 inches). J. T. Elliott, scratch man, jumped higher than this, but failed to make up the 4 inches he was conceding the winners.
One Mile Flat Race.—Varney (25 yards), 1; Weightman (80 yards), 2.
Egg and Spoon Race.—Prize for best costume: J. Sladen (Red Cross nurse). Prize for race: W. Corbett.

During the afternoon a military band was in attendance, and at the close of the sports Mrs. A. L. Milne distributed the prizes.

Fires.

Fire broke out at the Grange Villa branch of the West Pelton Co-operative Society, on May 23, and while some highly inflammable material in the dyslatory department was destroyed a hundredweight stock of carbolic acid in the same room was untouched either by fire or water.

On May 27 smoke was seen issuing from the shop of Mr. Ridley, chemist, English Street, Carlisle. The back door of the premises was broken open, and it was found that a fire had occurred in the midst of some small drug-drawers near the dispensing-department. The fire was quickly quenched, and the damage done was not great.

On May 25, while Mr. John Hunter, chemist and druggist, Bank Street, Carlisle, was making furniture-cream, the mixture accidentally became ignited, and a destructive fire seemed inevitable. The fire-brigade was sent for, but Mr. Hunter succeeded in subduing the flames before it came on the scene, and no serious damage was done.

Carbolic Cases.

Florence Ada Warwick, domestic servant at Old Ford Road, was found purloining some money from her mistress, who threatened to send for her mother. The girl drank some carbolic acid, and died the following day.

Dr. C. J. L. Mansell, of Brentwood, giving evidence at an inquest on a carbolic suicide at Shenfield last week, stated that he burnt his hands with the contents of the stomach, which were almost pure carbolic acid. The dead man's mouth was not burnt, because he had put the neck of the bottle at the back of his throat and poured the poison down.—Thomas Crossley, a Manchester mechanic, poisoned himself with carbolic acid obtained from Harry M. Sandford, assistant to Mr. J. B. Williams, chemist and druggist, 257 Oldham Road, Manchester. Mr. Sandford's evidence at the inquest on May 28 showed that he had used more than the ordinary precautions in the conduct of the sale.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Drug-contracts.

Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, and Mr. P. N. White, Sligo, tendered for the Stokestown (co. Roscommon) drug-contract. Mr. White's tender of 17½ per cent. off the L.G.B. prices was accepted.

The contract for the supply of drugs to the Omagh Union has been given to Messrs. Leslie & Co., Dublin. The L.G.B. would not allow the Guardians to accept the amended tender of Messrs. Lyons.

At the last meeting of the Mullingar Board of Guardians the question of the medicine-contract came up again. The clerk said the two lowest tenderers, Messrs. McMaster (Dublin), and Mr. White (Sligo) had declined to take the contract at the price they first offered, owing to the increased cost of drugs. The tender of Mrs. English, Mullingar, was the next lowest tender, and her contract was accepted.

Free-medicine Abuse.

At the annual meeting of the governors of the Ulster Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children Dr. Mitchell stated that the system of giving of free medicines in the extern department was a great source of abuse. The governors propose to make an arrangement with the chemists by which persons, on production of the hospital prescription would obtain medicines at a cheap rate. The suggestion was afterwards agreed to.

Striking while the Iron is Hot.

The Commission which has been inquiring into the sanitary condition of the city of Dublin have issued their report, which recommends several sanitary improvements. Following up this, Dr. J. C. McWalter has written to the Dublin newspapers, advancing a number of useful suggestions for the better housing and sanitation of the working-classes. Dr. McWalter suggests that to keep down the death-rate daily washing of living-rooms and removal of all solid and liquid refuse, together with an annual limewash of every habitation, are necessary.

Defective Pepsin.

Sir Chas. Cameron has reported to the Mitchelstown (co. Cork) Guardians that the pepsin supplied to him to analyse contained only 5 per cent. of the proper strength. The Clerk said the doctors have complained of the length of time before a report of the analyses is made; the medicines were often all used before the report came.

Compounder and Contractor.

In reference to the case of the Newcastle (West) Guardians, who have been warned by the L.G.B. that as the compounder at their dispensary is also in the employ of the contractor (*C. & D.*, May 26, 875) he will render himself liable to penalties, Mrs. Cahill, the drug-contractor, was interviewed by the Guardians at their last meeting. Mrs. Cahill says she would rather give up the drug-contract than dismiss Mr. Pepper, and that the drugs are ordered by her direct from Dublin and never go into her premises, so that there can be no possibility of collusion. The Guardians are to explain the position to the L.G.B.

Company-dividend.

Messrs. A. & R. Thwaites & Co. (Limited), chemists and mineral-water manufacturers, Dublin, have declared an interim dividend of 7 per cent., free of tax.

Personal.

Sir Thomas W. Robinson, M.P.S.I., director of Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson (Limited), pharmacists, Dublin, who received the honour of knighthood at the hands of the Lord-Lieutenant (*C. & D.*, May 26, page 883), was born in 1864 in Limerick, and is the eldest son of Mr. John Robinson, Clones. He was educated in Clones, and at the age of 15 was apprenticed to pharmacy and afterwards served for some years in Messrs. Kiloh's establishment,

Limerick. Ten years ago he purchased the business of Mr. John Evans in Kingstown, and since then his success has been marked. He was elected to the Kingstown Board of Commoners in 1894, and became chairman of that body last year. He is a Justice of the Peace for the county of Dublin and a former vice-president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. In social circles Sir Thomas is not less conspicuous. He is a prominent Freemason and Church worker. In politics he is a Conservative.

What will the Poor do Now?

Grace's drug-store, Dublin, for years past unique in being the only establishment in Ireland where goods from the value of ¼d. upwards could be purchased in the ordinary course of business, has ceased to exist. The peculiar style of trading was due, it is understood, to a proviso in the will of the original owner that the poor of the city should be enabled to make their purchases with the smallest coin of the realm.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Carbolic Fatality.

At Edinburgh on May 27, Mrs. Susan Elliot drank a quantity of carbolic acid in mistake for non-alcoholic ale, and died before the arrival of the doctor who was summoned.

Coming Events in Edinburgh.

Mr. John A. Small is to begin business shortly as a chemist and druggist at 9 Mary's Place, Raeburn Place. Mr. Small was formerly in business in Gilmore Place.

Mr. J. L. Reid announces that he will shortly open a large corner shop (partly in Elm Road and partly in Montgomery Street) to carry on the business of a dispensing chemist.

Business Change.

Mr. R. Gordon Drummond, chemist and druggist, Falkirk, who some time ago succeeded to the business of Mr. David Murdoch, pharmaceutical chemist, of that town, will now conduct the business under his own name. The pharmacy is, perhaps, the oldest in Scotland, having been established by Mr. Robert Walker 115 years ago, during 102 years of which the business has been carried on in the same premises at 95 High Street.

A South African Knight.

Amongst the colonials who received a knighthood at the recent Queen's Birthday celebrations was Dr. William Bisset Berry, who was elected Speaker of the Cape Legislative Assembly in 1898. Dr. Berry, who is brother to Mr. A. W. Berry, chemist, Aberdeen, was born in the Granite City in 1839. He graduated at the Marischal College, M.A. in 1858, and M.D. in 1861. He first established himself in Cape Colony in 1864, taking a great interest in municipal and educational work. He has served on many Government Commissions, and is considered an expert on native problems. Dr. Berry was three times Mayor of Queenstown, and entered the Cape Legislative Assembly as a Progressive in 1894.

Sportive Edinburgh Chemists.

The ninth annual sports in connection with the Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club were held on May 22. There was a large attendance of spectators, and some interesting and exciting sport was witnessed. Mr. John Bowman, Hon. President of the club, presided at the distribution of prize to the successful competitors. In addition to races open to amateurs, the following were the results of confined events:—300 yards flat-race handicap (confined to apprentice club members): 1, J. M. Hendry; 2, D. B. Kidd; 3, R. McGregor; 220 yards flat-race handicap (confined to trade): 1, W. Simpson; 2, A. Douglas. One mile bicycle handicap (confined to trade): 1, W. C. Taylor; 2, A. Noble. Half-mile flat-race handicap (confined to club): 1, W. T. Simpson; A. R. Smith. Final tie, five-a-side football competition: Jol Mackay & Co.'s team beat Duncan, Flockhart & Co.'s team by three goals to two.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE JURY OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The formal installation of the International Jury of Awards of the Paris Exhibition took place a few days ago at the Trocadero Palace, Paris, M. Millerand, Minister of Commerce, presiding. Several other Ministers were present, as well as M. Alfred Picard, General Manager of the Exhibition, who explained to the jurors the nature of their duties. M. Millerand asked them to commence work soon, in order that the awards might be made with as little delay as possible, as was the case for the Exhibition of 1889. The Jury is divided into three sections: Class Jury, Jury of Section, and Superior Jury. A novelty has been introduced in the Sections of Art Industries, in which, in addition to the awards given to manufacturers, additional recompenses will be accorded to their artists, designers, &c. The list of British jurors for the Exhibition awards is not yet complete—at least it was not so a few days ago—though a good many names are already known.

A FORERUNNER OF PASTEUR.—Last Sunday, May 27, the inauguration took place at Arcachon of a monument erected to the memory of Dr. Jean Hameau, a modest practitioner of that town, and who, it is claimed, anticipated Pasteur in his bacteriological methods. Professor Lannelongue, on behalf of the leading learned societies of Paris, gave an interesting discourse, in which he traced the life and work of the obscure *savant*. Jean Hameau, he said, was born of humble parentage at La Teste de Buch (Gironde) on October 5, 1779, and died there in 1851. Surgery practically owes to him the introduction of the antiseptic system. In a paper published in 1834 he gave the following definition of virus, then very obscure:—"Virus are formed of living matter, and are indelibly defined as follows: contagion, incubation, and multiplication." Hameau lived before his time, for it was not until 1860 that the great movement in favour of antiseptics commenced, and Pasteur was the high priest of that movement. [We generally claim something for Lister in that respect.—EDITOR.]

PORT SUNLIGHT IN PARIS.—The novel beanfeast to which Messrs. Lever Brothers (Limited), of Port Sunlight, Cheshire, treated 2,000 of their workpeople of both sexes and almost every age in Paris last Saturday, May 25, proved a great success. The organisation and arrangements were not more creditable than the behaviour and general attitude of this vast concourse of excursionists in a foreign city. They left Port Sunlight early on Friday afternoon, crossed the Channel in three special boats, and were conveyed from Calais by special trains direct to the Exhibition grounds. On arriving there at 9 A.M. on Saturday there was a general clamour (as became their trade) for soap and water after the long and dusty train-journey, but, curiously enough, this was apparently the only item that had been overlooked. The day's programme in Paris comprised a drive in brakes through the principal thoroughfares of the city (the vehicles being accompanied by squads of policemen on bicycles), five hours' sight-seeing in the Exhibition buildings and grounds, and last, but not least, three good meals. All the workpeople seemed very proud of their firm's enterprise, and highly appreciated the beanfeast—which, by the way, cost something like 7,000/. At 11 o'clock on Saturday evening the whole party were entrained for their return to England. As an advertisement this excursion is, of course, an excellent one for Sunlight soap, and it was made complete by five delegates of the company presenting President Loubet with an address which, under the circumstances, was a model of tact even to the phrase: "We experience the very great satisfaction of being able, thanks to the generosity of our employers, Messrs. Lever Brothers (Limited), soap-makers to her Britannic Majesty, to enjoy the privilege of visiting the great and historic city of Paris, and of admiring the grandest universal exhibition which the world has ever seen." The attitude of Parisians to the excursionists was that of amused and even friendly interest, while the leading Paris newspapers all found something pleasant to say about the little English invasion.

THE ANTI-ALCOHOLIC SERUM QUESTION was again discussed at the last meeting of the Paris Academy of Medicine. Dr. Sapelier, in collaboration with M. Broca, pharmacien, and Dr. Thebault, made a first communication to the Academy last December, showing that they had established, by experiments, that "a horse to which had been administered moderate doses of alcohol daily supplied at the end of a comparatively short time a serum, which, when injected into animals accustomed to take alcohol regularly in fairly large doses, caused such animals to refuse it in future." In support of the original experiment, Dr. Sapelier has now given the Academy the result of a series of observations made on alcoholic subjects treated by this method, the great majority being men. The experiments cover fifty-seven cases, of which thirty-two have been cured, eight have improved, and seventeen showed no benefit. Of these seventeen bad cases four patients did not follow the treatment, and thirteen were found to be physically unfit for it. The doctor concludes that the action of anti-alcoholic serum or antiethyline cannot be attributed either to imagination or suggestion, because, amongst the successes, certain of the patients ignored the reason and nature of their treatment, while hysterical and highly impressionable subjects figure only in the lists of failures or, at the most, improvements. The action of the anti-alcoholic serum is purely physiological, and it is supposed to consist in a reawakening of the instinctive disgust of man for alcohol. The serum acts on the economy of the system, and excites the various organs to act against the injurious effects of alcohol, as well as on the circulation and nutrition. It is noteworthy that these conclusions apply only to spirit-drinkers. The same results are produced, but less rapidly and with greater difficulty, in wine-drinkers, which is explained by the relatively small amount of alcohol contained in wine, and the injury to the digestive organs caused by wine. Such are the conclusions of Dr. Sapelier and his colleagues, and it remains to be seen if, in permanent practice, the results obtained by them will be maintained.

Colonial and Foreign News.

A TARDY RECOGNITION.—Mr. A. C. Sim, chemist, Kobe, has recently been presented by the Japanese Government with a set of silver cups in recognition of his work in aid of the sufferers by the tidal waves at Iwata Ken, Japan, in June, 1896.

AGAINST MONOPOLY.—A Bill has been presented to the Norwegian Storting, demanding the abolition of the present monopoly system and the introduction of the same freedom of trading as in England. The apothekers are awaiting the debates with considerable anxiety.

JAVA QUININE FOR THE UNITED STATES.—A correspondent of the *Strait Times* reports that the United States are largely undertaking the importation of quinine from Java. He thinks that deliverance from the European quinine trust is at hand now that a market has been established in Batavia.

PHYSICIANS AND DENTISTS IN GERMANY.—The number of practising physicians in the German Empire has increased during the last thirteen years from 15,824 to 21,725, or 56.25 per cent. During the same period the population has only increased 14 per cent. There are also 12,099 practising dentists in the German Empire.

AUSTRIAN ITEMS.—An Austrian apotheker who was unable to get on has forsaken pharmacy, and opened a coffee-house, which he finds pays better.—Herr Apotheker Hölbig of Obernberg, is about to celebrate his jubilee, having been sixty years a pharmacist. His assistant has been twenty-five years in his employment.

OPENINGS IN BRAZIL.—In reply to an inquiry by a New York correspondent, the American Consul at Rio writes that in the larger cities of Brazil, physicians, surgeons, and especially dentists, may find a sufficiently lucrative field of work, provided they are able to submit to a very rigid examination prescribed by the laws of Brazil. This examination, both oral and written, is conducted in the Portuguese language.

ENGLISH SPECIALITIES IN BRAZIL.—The National Analytical Laboratory at Rio de Janeiro has condemned, as prejudicial to health, a consignment of "Essence de rhum" produced by Baiss Brothers & Co., another of "Beurre de Crème des Prairies d'Elgin" made by Bertram Frères, and one of "Mason's original extract or essence of herbs" for making "herb or botanic beer."

VETERINARY COLLEGE FOR MADRAS.—A native of the Madras Presidency, Mr. Gobind Dass, has offered to present 10,000r. and a site for the proposed veterinary college in Madras. Other native gentlemen in the same province have also expressed their willingness to contribute, so there is every probability of that much-needed institution being founded. It is designed to supply locally-trained veterinary assistants for service in the Madras Presidency.

CINCHONA-SEED FROM JAVA.—Now that cinchona-planting has recommenced in several districts in Ceylon a Java planter is advertising for sale Ledgeriana seed "from the parent tree" which will yield 13 to 17 per cent. of cinchona! The price fixed for this grade is 5 guilders (about 8s. 4d.) per gramme. Java has undoubtedly the richest cinchona-trees in the world, but we did not know that there were any trees which analysed 17 per cent. of quinine; 5 to 7 per cent. is considered valuable.

A LANGUAGE-DIFFICULTY.—The secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce has received a letter from the Foreign Office stating that the law for the enforcement of the new regulation in regard to the introduction of goods bearing labels in the Portuguese language into Brazil will be enforced from July 1 unless meanwhile those interested appeal against it to Congress. Certain merchants have already declared that they intend to appeal, and it is hoped that the law may again be postponed.

ROUMANIAN PHARMACISTS of the Civil Hospitals, Bucharest, have come out on strike. There are seven hospitals in the city, in which the pharmaceutical students at the University generally hold situations as assistants, getting 80 lei (francs) a month, with free board and lodging in the hospital. A recent rule has enacted that instead of board and lodging they are to have 40 lei beyond the 80, which they contend is too little to live upon at Bucharest. A complaint which they put forward was ignored, and, accordingly they struck work. Military pharmacists were substituted, but there are only twelve of them for thirty-two places. *Later.*—The strike is now over.

Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MR. H. SQUIRE will shortly open a new pharmacy at 176 Uxbridge Road, W.

THE CENTRAL DRUG COMPANY has opened a drug-store at 55 Whitechapel Road, E.

DAY'S METROPOLITAN DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED) is about to open a branch at 273 Harrow Road, N.W.

MR. JOHN TIMMIS, chemist, of Bromley and Chiswick, has purchased the business of Mr Charles H. Booth at 394 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. E. A. GRIBBLE, who has been thirteen years assistant to Mr. C. Fay, 156 Stockwell Road, S.W., has purchased a chemist's business at Wrotham, Kent.

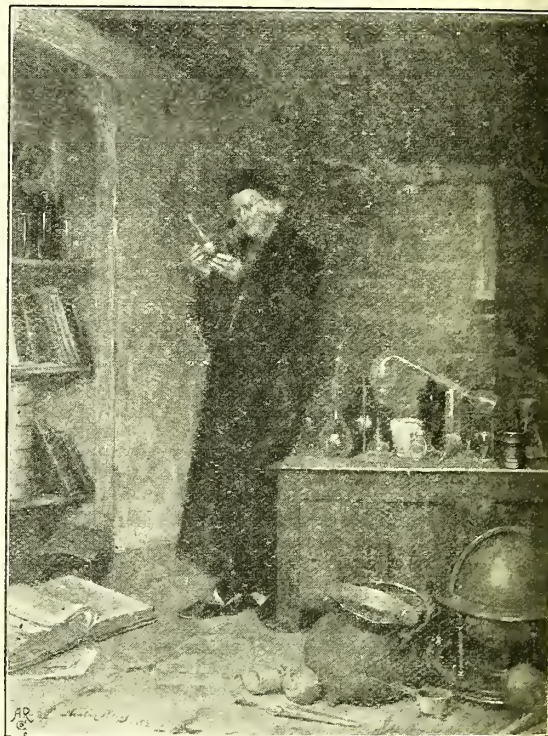
MR. W. E. KIRKMAN, late manager for Messrs. Walker & Harris, Ashford, has purchased the business lately carried on by Mr. J. A. Thompson at 1 High Street, St. Peters, Kent.

MR. J. SAUNDERS, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business established in 1837, and carried on by Mr. J. Hibbert for the last twenty-one years at Bexhill (Old Town), Sussex.

MR. J. H. SHERWOOD, chemist and druggist, of Withington Manchester, has purchased the business at 10 London Street, Southport, carried on for the last thirty years by Mr. F. Round. Messrs. Orridge & Co. effected the purchase.

The Art of Alchemy.

A MODERN conception of the alchemist is exhibited in the Royal Academy this year. It is from the brush of Mr. Newton Braby, of Teddington, to whom we are indebted for permission to reproduce the subjoined engraving of the picture.



THE PURSUIT OF ALCHEMY.

Mr. Braby writes to us in regard to the picture as follows:—

"I have endeavoured to portray in my picture an old scientist of the sixteenth century—not an impostor, as many of the alchemists were, who, taking advantage of the credulity of the age, sold what they called 'the powder of projection,' by means of which base metals could be turned into gold or silver.

"The grey-haired and somewhat attenuated old man depicted is a true chemist and man of science, and is represented as indulging in his favourite experiment—the quest of gold.

"The belief that gold might be extracted from the base metals was, I believe, very general among even the greatest scientists in early times, and I wished to show no mere necromancer, but a man of intelligence and thought, who entertained a sincere belief in the possibility of attaining the great secret of alchemy.

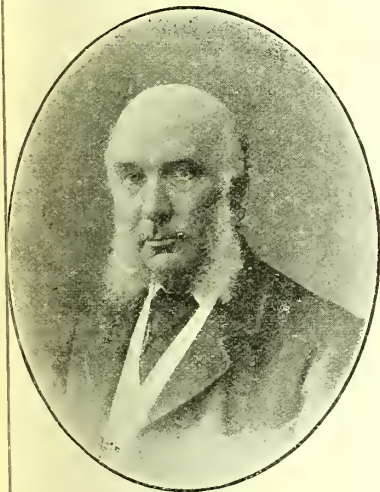
"He is shown in his workshop in the act of examining a solution, and surrounded with evidences of study, books, retorts, and other chemical appliances being on the shelves by his side, littered upon the floor, or on the oak chest, which he is extemporising as a laboratory-table.

"There is just a touch of mysticism and necromancy in the stuffed alligator suspended from the rafters and the bottles containing reptiles, &c., upon the shelf. This would be to impress any persons venturing into his sanctum, and possibly to create superstitious fear of interfering with any of his belongings in his absence. Behind the alchemist is seen a short flight of stone steps, leading to a more private place of research."

THE exports of beeswax from Beira in 1899 were 10,548 kilos., valued at 670l., against 1,245l. in 1898.

Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held on May 23 in Montrose, in accordance with the rule that the annual meeting shall



MR. CHARLES KERR.

be held in a different town each year. Mr. Charles Kerr (Dundee) presided. The others present were:—From Dundee, Messrs. A. B. Anderson, John Anderson, R. M. Lindsay, J. Doig, Jno. Wm. Russell, C. Cummings, W. Cummings, J. Braik Mason; from Glasgow, Mr. W. L. Currie; from Edinburgh, Mr. J. Rutherford Hill; from Arbroath, Messrs. J. Jack, A. Naysmith, J. Robertson, and J. White; from Brechin, Messrs. J. Hutton and J.

Lodgeton; from Kirriemuir, Mr. J. Ford; from Lochee, Mr. T. S. Peebles and Mr. J. H. Thomson; from Montrose, Mr. A. Davidson; from Perth, Mr. T. Harley; from St. Andrews, Mr. W. R. Kermath.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Ewing (Edinburgh), Johnston (Aberdeen), Storrar (Kirkcaldy).

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Chairman, in giving a *résumé* of the year's work, referred to the carbolic-acid question, Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, and the new regulations for the Preliminary examination, complaining about this last point that the only reply to their memorial to the Pharmaceutical Council was a postcard acknowledging receipt of it.

The financial statement showed that the membership was keeping up, and that an addition had been made to the balance in hand.

Mr. Kerr intimated that, having been President for three years, he thought it would be better for the Association that he should go round. He proposed that Bailie Doig be elected president. Mr. Naysmith, Arbroath, seconded, and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Kermath, St. Andrews, was elected Vice-President. The other office-bearers were appointed as follows:—Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. Cummings, Dundee. Committee, Messrs. James Russell, D. Ferrier, A. B. Anderson, and Charles Kerr, Dundee; Park, Broughty Ferry; Naysmith, Arbroath; Davidson, Montrose; Ferrier, Brechin; McFarlane, Forfar; Ford, Kirriemuir; and Thomson, Lochee.

Mr. Peter MacEwan, Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, was elected an honorary member.

On the motion of Mr. Thomson (Lochee), seconded by Mr. Currie (Glasgow), the meeting recorded its indebtedness to Mr. Kerr for the great services which he had rendered to the Association.

DIVISION OF THE MINOR.

Mr. W. R. Kermath then moved the following resolution:—

That, in the opinion of this meeting of the Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association, the time has now arrived when the method of conducting the Minor examination should be altered, and that the same rules should apply as obtain in medicine and surgery—namely, that the candidates be credited with subject or subjects in which they obtain pass marks.

He said this subject had exercised the minds of the pharmaceutical world for a long time. He showed that in the

medical examination candidates present themselves for four subjects. If they pass in two, these are placed to their credit, and are done with. In the legal examination candidates have seven subjects. Of these they may select three, and they get credit for any one passed. That, he thought, disposed of the comparison between these examinations and ours. Our examination is a cumulative one, in that all the subjects must be passed at once. It had also to be considered that many pharmacy pupils had not had the benefit of a good secondary education. Apprentices had to be taken from elementary schools. The Minor examination was instituted in 1868 with a fee of three guineas. In 1892 the fee was raised to five guineas, and it would soon be ten guineas. Along with that there had been increased stringency of the examination, and the only consolation offered was that "it may be some advantage in the future that there should be fewer coming into their ranks." He urged that candidates on passing certain subjects should be credited therewith. The present system severely depleted the exchequer of many not well able to stand it, and Mr. Kermath read some opinions of leading pharmacists (Mr. Boa, Mr. Ewing, and Mr. Proctor) in regard to the burden which a multiplicity of subjects is, and, turning to the reason given for making the examinations so stringent, he maintained that those who had been registered during the past twenty years had not neglected their duty, and were capable pharmacists. They had good grounds, he continued, for complaint against the Pharmaceutical Council, and suggested that all should join the Society and elect men to the Council who would protect the trade against too high ideals. The finances of the Society are benefiting by many thousands of pounds from fees contributed directly or indirectly by small country businesses, which are conducted carefully and skilfully, though without the pecuniary reward obtained in the best London districts. The Council, he said, have great powers, but have done nothing towards protection of chemists' titles.

Mr. Lindsay seconded the motion. At the first meeting of the Association held three years ago he ventilated this same grievance. He had no love for the Council, nor for their high ideals. The frock-coat and West-end ideas of business were too strongly represented there, while the great majority of the trade were in short jackets, and were expected to provide guineas for which they got nothing substantial in exchange.

Mr. Jack proposed to amend Mr. Kermath's motion by omitting the latter part. He did not think it was prudent to introduce the references to the Medical and Law examinations. He believed the question they were discussing was being considered at headquarters, and no doubt they would be interested to hear it had been discussed by that Association.

Mr. White seconded the amendment.

A general discussion followed. In the end Mr. Kermath withdrew his motion, and accepted the amended motion in the following form:—

That in the opinion of this meeting the time has now arrived when the method of conducting the qualifying examination should be altered.

This became the unanimous resolution of the meeting. Mr. Naysmith proposed, and it was agreed, that a copy of the resolution, signed by the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, be sent to the Pharmaceutical Council.

B.P.C. FOR 1902.

The Secretary reported that a large number of the postcards issued had been returned expressing approval of the proposal to invite the British Pharmaceutical Conference to Dundee in 1902. It was remitted to the committee to take further steps. This was all the business.

AFTER BUSINESS, PLEASURE.

On the invitation of Mr. Alexander Davidson (who by the way was the only representative of Montrose chemists present), the company proceeded for a drive round Montrose Basin, and as the day was fine, it was much enjoyed. On returning, dinner was waiting in the Star Hotel. Twenty-eight sat down, Mr. Davidson being Chairman and Mr. Kerr Croupier. After dinner the Chairman proposed "The

Queen," and later "The Imperial Forces," which were duly honoured. Mr. Naysmith replied for the latter.

Mr. Currie proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," and in the course of his remarks said the opinion was pretty generally held that with a more energetic Council a good deal more might be done to raise the status of pharmacy. The time was past for the elimination of companies, and they must now make the best of a bad job. They must use every effort to prevent companies obtaining power to do that which the individual could not legally do. That, he thought, was really the main point at present.

Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, in replying, said things seemed to him to be at present in a transition state, but with more general support to the Society from registered chemists, progress on lines approved by the majority would be greater and better.

Mr. Hodgeton (Breachin) proposed "The Forfarshire Association," to which Mr. Kerr replied. Then the Chairman's health was heartily toasted, Mr. Kermath thanking him for his warm welcome and handsome entertainment, and the Croupier was similarly honoured.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PREFERENTIAL TARIFF PROPOSED.—Notice has been given in the Natal Parliament of a motion to ask the Government to consider the desirability of the adoption of a preferential tariff for British goods on the lines already laid down by Canada.

LICENCE-FEES AT BEIRA.—A licence-fee of 25*l.* is now to be paid by all chemists and druggists practising in Beira (Portuguese East Africa) under the new tariff regulations. The proceeds of this new tariff, it is stated, are to be devoted to the Town Service Fund, whatever that may be.

CARELESS PRESCRIBING.—It is reported that Colonel Ivor Herbert, Assistant-Adjutant-General at Cape Town, has been the victim of a mistake, which very nearly proved fatal. Through a blunder in making up a prescription, an excessive dose of arsenic was administered, and Colonel Herbert narrowly escaped being poisoned.

NEARLY A BLAZE.—A narrow escape from fire occurred on April 29 at the shop of Mr. Allerston, chemist, Pietermaritzburg. A large brass hanging-lamp in the shop became overheated, and ignited, sending up a huge flame. The assistant, with the aid of a customer in the shop, got the lamp out of its socket, using a wet sack to clutch it, and threw it into the gutter outside, where the oil blazed merrily away for the delectation of a crowd of natives and Europeans.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—Messrs. Munkman & Godding are about to open a pharmacy in Walmer Road, Port Elizabeth.—Mr. H. L. Stonham has taken over the Lansdowne Dispensary, Claremont, C.C., recently carried on by Mr. F. W. C. Thomas of that place, as a branch-business.—Messrs. C. E. Gardner & Co., wholesale and retail chemists, Port Elizabeth, have moved from Market Square and Jetty Street, to a more commodious building immediately opposite. Business men at the Bay are looking ahead, by the way. The Liverpool of South Africa anticipates a roaring trade after the war.

THE CAPE CHEMICAL SYNDICATE, LIMITED, a company promoted for the purpose of acquiring certain rights held by Mr. Thomas Anderson, and for the manufacture of sulphuric acid, artificial manure, &c., is in the hands of the liquidator. The works complete are valued in the company's books at 5,800*l.*, but an offer of 2,500*l.* would, we understand, be accepted. The prices ruling in Cape Town for imported sulphuric acid range from 45*s.* to 50*s.* per case of four jars. Since the war as much as 68*s.* has been obtainable. It cannot, therefore, be on the score of profit that the business could not be made to pay, and not so long ago a very rosy view of the company's position was given expression to at their meeting.

In anticipation of a conflict with Peru (says the *Rio News*), the Chilean Government has suspended the exportation of saltpetre.

Trade Notes.

TABLOID UROTROPINE is the latest addition to Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co.'s list. This new remedy, which is now thoroughly well established in the esteem of prescribers, is one of the best-known urinary antiseptics, and is of special service in the treatment of cystitis. The tabloid-form of it is put up in bottles, each containing twenty-five tabloids, one to three of these being a dose.

STILL-HEADS.—The series of improved still-heads which Professor Young, Bristol, exhibited to the Chemical Society last year, seem to be in demand. It will be remembered that Professor Young, after experimental research, came to the conclusion that the Ginsky and Le Bel-Henninger tubes were comparatively ineffective, and in consequence set to work to devise the improved still-heads shown in the illustration. Messrs. John J. Griffin & Sons (Limited), Sardinia Street, W.C., are making the still-heads at a cheap rate, the prices being from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* Annexed are illustrations of some of the heads.

CHEMISTS' GUIDE-BOOK.

—Mr. J. P. Thomson, chemist and druggist, Penicuik, has published "The Handy Guide to Penicuik and Neighbourhood." The guide is well produced, the large number of photographic *clichés* with which it is illustrated being produced with great clearness. The literary contents of the guide set out very temptingly the scenic and historic attractions of Penicuik.

FLETCHERS' VOLUMETRIC CYLINDER.—Messrs. Fletcher, Fletcher & Co., London, N., have devised a novel graduated measure for compounding the dilute alcohols of the British

Pharmacopœia—namely, 20, 25, 60 and 70 per cent.—from 90 per cent. alcohol. At the same time the volumetric cylinder as they call it, is suitable for compounding tinctures from Fletchers' liquors by measuring definite quantities of these liquors with the requisite volumes of water, and 90 per cent. alcohol required to make the B.P. menstruum. For example to make tincture of bchu one uses 20 volumes of Fletchers' liquor, 40 of 90-per-cent. alcohol, and 21 of distilled water. The alcohol and water are mixed first, the liquor then added and the tincture is ready for use. In the case of tincture of belladonna, the liquor for which is 1 to 7, there are measured 47 volumes of 90-per-cent. alcohol, and 25 of water, then 10 of the liquor is added to the mixture. There are similar directions to these on all the labels for Fletchers' liquors. The cylinder costs 2*s.* 6*d.*, and it is accompanied by a convenient alcohol-table for making 80-volume quantities, the measure being either 10 oz., or half a gallon according as to whether the operator uses drachms or ounces. The essential part of this table is as follows:—

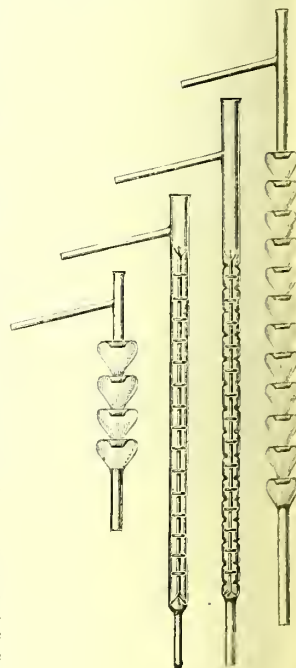
Spirit rectificatus B.P. 1898 has a sp. gr. 0.834, and contains 90 per cent. by volume of real alcohol.

To obtain alcohol 70 per cent. (sp. gr. 0.890), mix alcohol 90 per cent. 62 volumes, and distilled water 20 volumes.

To obtain alcohol 60 per cent. (sp. gr. 0.915), mix alcohol 90 per cent. 53 volumes, and distilled water 29 volumes.

To obtain alcohol 45 per cent. (sp. gr. 0.944), mix alcohol 90 per cent. 40 volumes, and distilled water 42 volumes.

To obtain alcohol 20 per cent. (sp. gr. 0.976), mix alcohol 90 per cent. 18 volumes, and distilled water 63 volumes.



War Notes.

TRANSVAAL AND O.F.S. SUBSCRIBERS.—Any subscribers of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* whose places of business were in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, and who have not received their copies since the war broke out, are requested to send their names and addresses to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. We have reserved their copies of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* and copies of the *DIARY*, and these we shall send to them as soon as they inform us of their addresses.

at Waggon Hill, Ladysmith, on January 6. The arm is still powerless. Your correspondent is pointing out to him a consultant whom he might visit in London, as he leaves for home next week by the *Eschdalemuir*. The other, a Devon, was shot in the thigh at Pieters Hill, February 27, Majuba Day—Bobsfontein Day. The two sitting on the ground are a Scottish Rifle and an East Surrey. They are criticising the *C. & D.* of February 17—not the equations. The other three are settling the Winter Issue of your paper. The centre man is "wan av the Dubs.," and wittily explained knotty points to the other two, who are South African Light Horse. The one holding the tent is a 5th Lancer, and the others to the left are (in order) a Natal scout, two Royal Artillery, a Gordon (the one with his face bandaged), Royal

Our Correspondent



THE "C. & D." AT THE FRONT.

WOUNDED "SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN" READING THE "C. & D." AT THE FIELD HOSPITAL, COLENSO.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL is the event of the week to the troops in hospital, writes a correspondent. Natal is advised by cable from Cape Town of the arrival of the mail steamer in Table Bay. The day of expected delivery and time is then posted up outside each post-office. Those especially who have only recently arrived from Europe look forward with much eagerness for their home letters and papers, and 370 wounded soldiers get through a lot of reading. After the usual news and leaders are carefully gone over, the advertisements are disposed of. One day this week (our correspondent wrote on May 5) my portion of the ordinary mail consisted of three *C. & D.*'s and the *DIARY*, which had followed me in my wanderings through several field hospitals, until some good Samaritan in Ladysmith redirected them hither. I handed them out at once to the men, and was rewarded by many very funny remarks and suggestions on the various formulae, legal proceedings, advertisements, &c. Everyone was reading aloud, and altogether. "Daisy" advertisements were much discussed. These Tommies agreed that retail chemists in general were mostly rogues, almost as bad as lawyers. A war artist for a big English pictorial, who was near at the time, and interested, took the accompanying photo of them. The two on the right are looking at the list of consultant surgeons in *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*. He with arm in sling was a trooper in the Imperial Light Horse, and was shot in the wrist, the bullet coming out at the elbow. This happened

Artillery, and Imperial Hospital Corps—a very composite group. They are in the usual hospital clothing.

IN MAFEKING DURING THE SIEGE.

A Chemist's Experience.

We are indebted to Mr. W. N. Cooper, of Kimberley, for a copy of a letter which he received at the end of April from Mr. J. E. Jones, the manager of his Mafeking branch. The following extracts are specially interesting to our readers:—

Mafeking, March 20.

DEAR MR. COOPER,—I received your very welcome letter [sent February 6] yesterday. I have sent one or two wires and a couple of orders to you by the official runners, but am afraid they must have gone astray. [I received one wire and two letters.—W. N. C.] The infant mortality was great here in the first few months, but now the town is fairly healthy, in spite of rather short rations. Meal, flour, and sugar are what we are shortest of; there seems to be plenty of good fresh meat. For the first month I was up in the north-eastern redoubt, De Kock's corner, all the time sleeping there, doing sentry at night, and living on bread and beef. Then Colonel Baden-Powell sent for me to do some of the dispensing, as Davies could not manage it all. From November 8 till the end of the year I was kept pretty busy; then drugs ran short. Chemicals, of course, I have been unable to replace, but have made tinctures from Dop—such, that is, as I had the ingredients for. Some things—a few patents (Dutch), soap, tooth brushes, powder, &c.—I have so managed as to keep the business together a bit. The run on saccharin, sweets, extract

of beef, infants' foods, &c., has been enormous, and, of course, I am quite cleared out. Sunday is always my busiest day, as, hostilities being suspended, women and children, &c., knock about a bit more. Generally, I open after breakfast (I board at Dixon's), and close about 5 or 6 p.m. There is not very much doing on week-days, as it is not too safe walking about the streets, for stray bullets come dropping about all over. So far, though the shop has been hit frequently both by bullets and pieces of shell, it is not messed up very much. The shell that knocked Lennon's dropped in front, and merely stove in the windows, doing scarcely any damage inside.

The bullet which hit me came through the back of the shop. Fortunately, I was heading almost flat over the table, and the bullet only went in about $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch deep and travelled up along the shoulder for about 2 inches; had it taken out at the hospital. It inconvenienced me very little indeed, and I was quite all right in a week or two. The business here seems to have resolved itself into a sniping-match, with a few shells thrown in for variety's sake. . . . Altogether the Boers here have received worse than they have given. They cannot shoot for nuts, either with cannon or rifle, and it must have cost them more for ammunition alone than would pay for all the damage they have done.

We have Church every Sunday, and generally sports or entertainments of some kind. We have had three Lodge meetings, initiated five candidates, and raised two. There is really very little to tell, one day is so much like another. Of course we had a worse time than you had, the place being smaller, but we do not seem to mind much now. Of course we should all be glad to see our wives and families again, but there is no such thing as surrender until ammunition and food are both exhausted. I do not think I have lost weight during the siege.

Writing on May 5, Mr. Cooper says:—"I am getting a larger order together for Mr. Jones, and will try to run it up as soon as I can." Mr. Davies referred to in the above is Messrs. Lennon's manager.

CIVIL COMPOUNDERS' EXPERIENCES.

In his letter this week one of our regular contributors touches philosophically on the hardships of campaigning life, and more seriously on the infliction of vermin pests, under which they have been suffering. He speaks highly of the bravery of Mr. Thomas Atkins under suffering:—

Glen Camp (near Bloemfontein),
April 19, 1900.

Thanks very much indeed for tobacco and pipe: it was a perfect godsend. All of us are badly in need of many things, but the weed was the most precious thing that could possibly have turned up. As you see by this, we have left Karree, and are in a big hospital camp for the present at Glen, about fourteen miles from Bloemfontein. We are in a pretty predicament as I am writing this. It is our first return to canvas since we left Enslin (February 10), but it has rained continuously for twelve hours, and we are in an absolute swamp. However, it is a consolation to have some kind of a roof over one's head. We expect to move forward soon. You would laugh if you could see me. My trousers are in absolute rags—an immense hole across each knee; Jacob's ladders down all the seams; the seat, which contains a huge patch, is only held together by two safety pins. Continual scrubbing and dipping in HgCl₂ solution have made my two only shirts quite rotten. Why dip them in corrosive sublimate? To kill the lice and their eggs, which swarm. They are the worst discomfort we have to contend with. We shall never get rid of them till we can burn our clothes and change our dirty blankets. Still, you get used to these kinds of things. I haven't any news to tell you. We eagerly wait each English mail to learn how the war has progressed in other parts. We have an appalling number of sick here, but not many serious cases. I think a good many of the C.I.V.'s have had enough of it. 'Tisn't altogether a picnic. Our wounded at Karree got on splendid, though all cases of abdominal wounds died. They were hopeless from the first, and were simply kept under morphia till they died. We had several operations and amputations. The Tommies are brave chaps when wounded. It is curious, a man who, coming out, used to make an awful fuss over some trifling ailment, would stand having a suppurating wound probed and picked at without wincing, and seemed quite happy so long as he could suck his pipe.

The brighter side of the compounder's life in Natal is shown in the following letter sent to Mr. H. C. Hunt, chemist and druggist, Reading, by a late assistant, to whom we are indebted for it:—

Pinetown Bridge, Natal,
May 5, 1900.

DEAR MR. HUNT,—I had two months at Aldershot drilling and a little dispensing at the Cambridge Hospital, and left there for Southampton on February 28 with another compounder, named E., of Northallerton, who fancies he studied with you in London. We sailed on the P. & O. *Assaye*, with 2,087 troops. The vessel

was very crowded, but I and my colleague were fortunate enough to secure a second-class cabin, and had therefore a very good time going out. We had a very smooth passage, and reached Cape Town in nineteen days. We did the dispensing coming out, and it was pretty heavy, but the supply of drugs was altogether insufficient. We stayed two days at Cape Town to put down some troops and take up mails. Whilst there I went on shore and had a look at the town, and also saw some 1,500 Boer prisoners being marched from a vessel to Green Point. We sailed again on March 21, stopped a day at Port Elizabeth and another day at East London, eventually reaching Durban on March 26—a very quick voyage. When we reached Durban the site of the hospital had not even been chosen, so we had a week in Durban with nothing to do but look about. We fed and slept on board, and spent the rest of the time in the town. On April 2 we came here, fifteen miles north of Durban, close to the line to Maritzburg and Ladysmith. An army of joiners were set to work, and now we have hospitals capable of holding between 200 and 300 patients. We received the first batch of patients about a fortnight ago, the result of a very bad railway accident close here, in which two men and thirty mules were killed, ten men injured, and three coaches smashed to splinters. The injured soldiers are going on well. We also had thirty men suffering from enteric fever last Saturday. The staff consists of the officer in command, a major of the R.A.M.C., seven civil surgeons, whom I will name, as they all come from Bristol—Dr. Paul Bush, an eminent surgeon, and Drs. Nathan, Ciedlam, Worthington, Pearse, and Flemming; four sisters, three of whom came from Bristol Infirmary—viz., Sisters Leng, Snell, and Fisher; thirty men of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, and two compounders R.A.M.C. (B. and myself). At present I am having a very easy time of it. We have a very nice little dispensary (a separate building) and a good assortment of drugs. B. does the work one day and I the other, but when the hospitals are full, as they will be in about a week, we shall have plenty to do. A Mr. Alfred Mosely, a South African diamond-merchant, is finding all the money for building and equipping the hospital. When in England he lives partly at Clifton, and that, I suppose, is the reason that all the doctors and ladies come from Bristol. We live in tents here. Pinetown Bridge is a very healthy spot, and I think we shall have a decent time for the next few months (how many it would be difficult to say). I have never enjoyed better health in my life. The sun is very fierce in the day (from 90° to 104° in the shade), and the night is chilly. Winter is just commencing. I am told by the inhabitants of the district that the climate won't vary much for eight months now. I trust this will find you in the best of health and business brisk. Shall always be glad to get a line. With kind regards,
Yours very truly,
H. W. W.

Another of Mr. Hunt's late assistants addresses him from the Field Force under General Rundle at

Thaba 'Nchu, April 30.

DEAR MR. HUNT,—Having a few minutes to spare I take the opportunity to write a few lines: we have had very little time to ourselves up to the present. I came from Tilbury Docks in the *Braemar Castle*, and had a very pleasant voyage. It took us twenty-one days. We stayed at Cape Town three days, then transhipped on to the s.s. *Pavonia* and came on to Port Elizabeth, then trained up to Edinburgh: fifty-six hours. I got a bit tired of it before we reached our destination. After reaching Edinburgh we marched here via Reddersburg and Dewetsdorp; we have been starting about 3 in the morning, keeping on four hours at a stretch. We have only been served with quarter-rations since Thursday, so we are very much tired and hungry—another splendid example of the brilliant management of the War Office. We expect to stay here a day or two. French and Rundle are hammering away at Oliver, whom they expect to capture with his force and the prisoners he had of Gatacre's. We are seeing our first bit of fighting to-day; we are supposed to be outside the firing-line, but as I write this an occasional shell comes screaming over our heads and bursts on the hill at our backs. The Boer "pom-pom" gun seems to be a splendid weapon, dropping about eight shells a minute, and making it a bit warm for the regiment it is directed against. I don't know where the compounding comes in; I have been put in charge of a stretcher. My work consists in rendering first-aid to the wounded and seeing them placed properly on the stretcher. We have formed a dressing-station here close to the forces, and at this moment am awaiting orders to go out and fetch in the wounded. Have seen H. several times. I came from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth with him; he didn't say whether he was still big on South Africa; I don't think either of us expressed an opinion that way. The opinion in Cape Town was that the war would last another year. I don't think so myself; but you get more news in England than we do, for we get absolutely none. We know nothing that is going on; where Roberts and the rest are no one in our brigade seems to know. I am in perfect health, and should thoroughly enjoy it if there was a little less work to do and a little more to eat—I mean loading baggage and unloading, and so on. The

present conditions for letter-writing are rather unfavourable, so you must excuse it being short and unintelligible. Hoping you are well, with kind regards.
C. H. L.

GUNNER JOHN M. ELLIOT, of M Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, whose name was on the list of casualties in the relief of Mafeking, was a grandson of the late Mr. John Elliot, chemist and druggist, Berwick.

A CHEMIST IN THE NATAL CARABINEERS.—Corporal Tytherleigh, of the Natal Carabineers, who is in this country on sick leave from South Africa just now, is well known in Taunton, where he was formerly an assistant at the establishment of Messrs. Gregory & Wrenn, chemists and druggists. About three years ago he left England for Pietermaritzburg, and shortly after his arrival joined the Natal Carabineers. At the outbreak of the war he was sent with his regiment to guard the frontier, and was subsequently attached to the late General Symons's force. He was present in the engagements at Dundee, Elandslaagte, and was in Ladysmith throughout the siege. He formed one of the defence party against the desperate attack by the Boers on Caesar's Camp. Subsequently he had an attack of enteric fever, and on the relief of the town was placed on sick leave. He took advantage of this to return home to see his friends, and is at present staying with the Mayor and Mayoress of Taunton (Mr. and Mrs. Wrenn), whom he accompanied in their carriage in the Queen's birthday procession attired in khaki.

CHEMIST-AND-DRUGGIST VOLUNTEERS.—Messrs. Timothy White & Co., of Portsmouth, have set a good example to large employers of labour in the encouragement of their men to join Volunteer corps. Mr. Woolmer White, the local head of the firm, offered to raise a company of 100 men for the 3rd (Duke of Connaught's Own) Volunteer Battalion Hampshire Regiment, and himself promised to accept the command of the new company. No difficulty has been experienced in obtaining recruits, and seventy-four were attested on Thursday, May 24. Drills have commenced.

Home from Kimberley.

"That gentleman would like to see you."

The card read "William Gasson, chemist, Kimberley, S.A.," and the gentleman himself, a tall, bronzed, and quiet Englishman, was soon giving the Editor a hearty handgrip and introducing Mrs. Gasson.



MR. WILLIAM GASSON.

Both are home for a six-months' holiday, which they felt they deserved after the long siege.

While the conversation proceeded we could not help noting that the horrors of the siege had not been very lasting, judging from these two happy people, who spoke of it in the most matter-of-fact fashion.

"Did you live down a mine, Mrs. Gasson?" we asked.

"Yes, some of the time," she replied. "We lived in one shaped like a pudding-bowl, you know. I went there in the morning, with my two boys and our maids, and

stayed all day until the shelling-time was over."

"Some went down the shaft-mine," added Mr. Gasson, "where it was quite safe, but not so healthy. My pharmacy was nearly hit one day. A 100-lb. shell fell at the back of the premises. Fortunately it did not explode."

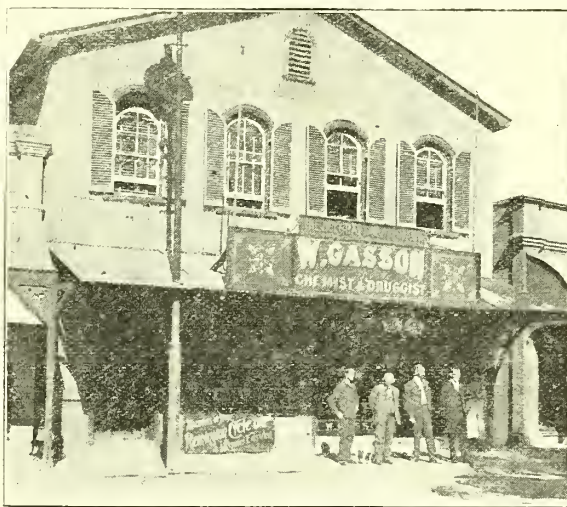
In the course of the conversation it transpired that shells were not infrequent visitors to the pudding-bowl mine, and Mrs. Gasson remarked that *sometimes* she "would have been glad of a bit of tin over the tent." "A bit of tin" is South African for corrugated iron, we believe. Mr. Gasson was in the town guard. He was an officer in the Volunteer Artillery some years ago, and was asked to resume his rank when the war broke out, but preferred to do duty as a private, so that he might look after his business when he was not doing sentry-go. He had his daily duties on the outer lines of defence. When we heard that we asked, "How many Boers did you kill?" He laughed as he replied, "Not one; never saw any to kill. It was the dulllest job I ever had all my life."

"Didn't the shells keep you lively?"

"Never came near us on duty. They were all fired into the town where our wives and children were. That made us a bit anxious."

The condition of Kimberley pharmacy during the siege has already been told in the *C. & D.*, Mr. Tudor, who has charge of the Belgravia pharmacy, having written to us about it. We now asked Mr. Gasson to tell us how the chemists replenished their stocks after the siege, and we learnt that the first difficulty they had was to get the goods through the lines. The military authorities were intent on provisions, and provisions only, but the chemists were able to move them as regards physic by showing that fever was increasing. The town had been remarkably free from fever during the siege, but there was an epidemic as soon as the soldiers came in—they seemed to bring it with them. Soon consignments of medicines were got in. Mr. Gasson had an order of five months' standing waiting at Cape Town, and Messrs. P. J. Petersen & Co. pushed other goods along. Their traveller was the first to get into the town, then came Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co's., and Mr. Richardson, of Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb. They all got good orders.

We give a picture of Mr. Gasson's pharmacy. We may state that Mr. Gasson has been eleven years in Kimberley.



THE BELGRAVIA PHARMACY.

He is an old Westminster College student, having passed the Minor from there, and served his apprenticeship with Messrs. Leech & Weedon, of Crawley. He had other provincial and metropolitan experience before going out to South Africa.

LOMAS.—Letters of administration, dated April 24, 1900, have been granted to the estate of Joseph Wilding Lomas, chemist and druggist, of 31 Vicarage Road, Camberwell, S.E., who died on October 11, 1899, to Sarah Ann Wilkinson, wife of John E. Wilkinson, 6 Norman Villas, Hatfield Road, Margate, niece, the only next-of-kin, two brothers of the testator being of unsound mind. There is no real estate, and the administratrix will administer for the use and benefit of the two brothers until they become of sound mind. The gross value of the personal estate is 7,256l. 12s. 1d., and the net value 7,235l. 16s. 1d.

General Medical Council.

OUR report of the Council proceedings published last week went as far as the meeting on Thursday, May 24, which was briefly referred to. On that day the Council was chiefly engaged in the consideration of unprofessional conduct cases,



SIR HECTOR CAMERON
(the new Knight and
member of the Council).

one of which was of special interest to chemists and druggists who are dentists, as it involved the removal of the name of one such dentist from the register because he advertises.

CASES FROM THE COURTS.

The first of the cases taken was that of W. M. Joyce, L.R.C.P. and S.E., L.F.P.S.G., Small Heath, Birmingham, who, it will be remembered, was summoned before the Council last session for having been convicted of drunkenness and assault, and who afforded some trouble to the Chairman, and some entertainment to the gallery. Mr. Joyce brought none of the certificates of good behaviour which have been required of him, and though his appearance was woe-begone he retained an easy and familiar manner. In reply to the President's solemn question as to whether his conduct since last November was such as was becoming a gentleman of his profession, he said evasively that he had done nothing to bring him into court. On the query being repeated he answered that his conduct have been just what his father would have recommended. Nevertheless the Council decided to strike his name off the register.

J. A. Graydon, registered in Ireland as Lic. Fac. Phys. Surg. Glasgow 1870, who had carried on a practice aided by



MR. GRAYDON.



MR. MCBREEN.

a dispensary in Bow Road, though it came out he had been doing nothing professionally for the last year, was convicted last March of assaulting his wife, and there were records against him in 1899 of assault and drunkenness. On being brought before the Council Mr. Graydon pleaded that the assault on Mrs. Graydon had been committed when he was intoxicated, and whilst in a fit of jealous passion. A letter from the wife begged for mercy, and that the Council would give him another chance. Mr. Graydon said that he had been an abstainer for ten weeks, and in reply to the Chairman said he had taken a definite pledge and meant to keep it. The Council gave him another chance, but require him to appear again next session, and to produce certificates of good conduct from responsible persons.

THE ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

Armitage Forbes, of 23 Charlotte Street, Ashfield, Sydney N.S.W., L.R.C.S. Irel. and L.R.C.P. Edin., on the complaint of the Queensland Medical Board, was charged with being associated with the Anglo-Australian Medical Institute, which publicly advertises systems of medical treatment and

remedies for particular diseases, and with being a party to the advertising. He did not appear, but two letters from him were read, the second of which, written after receipt of the summons, was of a more apologetic and deferential tone than the first. Mr. Forbes protested that the institute in question was as legitimate and orthodox in all its ways as any dispensary, that the medical department was entirely under his own control, and covered no unqualified practitioner, and that no quack remedies were resorted to. In his second letter Mr. Forbes added that he had not been aware when he became connected with the institute that he would be considered guilty of infamous conduct, that the remedies employed were for the most part tabloids, and his name had never appeared in any newspaper-advertisement. The institute had now ceased to exist, and he had apologised to the Queensland Medical Board. No communication having been received from the Board in corroboration of Mr. Forbes's statements, the President suggested that copies of Mr. Forbes's letters should be forwarded to the Board with a request for information. Some discussion ensued as to the independence of the Queensland body, which Mr. Bryant said was doing excellent work in checking advertising; but Mr. Horsley asked whether the discussion was not assuming the character of deliberations on the case, and supported the President's proposal. On Dr. Macalister rising to answer, Mr. Horsley sharply interjected that he did not want to hear Dr. Macalister, "Dr. Macalister was always interrupting members, he didn't want his opinion, he wanted the President's." Dr. McVail then spoke, and in the course of his remarks quoted passages from the literature of the institute which went to prove that quack methods of advertising were employed. After deliberation *in camera* the Council ordered that Mr. Forbes's name be struck off the register.

The case of Dr. R. H. Foot, 6 Elliot Road, S.W., who was sentenced to three months' imprisonment on April 12, 1899, for indecent exposure, came before the Council, and after a long hearing, in the course of which Dr. Foot gave evidence on his own behalf, the Council resolved not to remove his name from the register.

DENTISTS' ADVERTISEMENTS.

The next case was a complaint against Arthur Oglesby, of 21 Cheapside, Barnsley, by Dr. Hugh Woods, on behalf of the Medical Protection Society. The Dental Committee reported as follows:—

Arthur Oglesby had systematically sought to attract professional practice by the issue of public advertisements of his name, address, appliances, and professional qualifications.

In particular he advertised himself as D.D.S. University Ill., which alleged diploma he admitted that he obtained without visiting America, or being subjected to any examination.

The public advertisements issued by Arthur Oglesby were highly objectionable.

Arthur Oglesby stated that since the month of September, 1899, he had discontinued the issue of the advertisements which were brought before the Committee, but he continued to advertise himself by the issue of an objectionable (*sic*) card in the local newspapers.

Dr. McVail took exception to the curious assertion that Mr. Oglesby had stated his own card to be objectionable;



DR. HUGH WOODS.



MR. OGLESBY.

but the change of a comma to a semi-colon was made, with an implied intimation that this was not the point before the Council. The President then explained that the facts of the case having been found, the Council had only to decide on the action to be taken, and he put it to the Council whether

they would now proceed to deal with the committee's report, or whether they would hear the parties upon the report, or upon any question arising out of it. The Council was very much in the dark as to which proceeding described what they wanted to do, and whether they might not cut themselves off either from dealing with the report in one case, or from hearing the parties in the other; and the standing order was patiently repeated more than once without making the matter much clearer. At length Mr. Oglesby was invited to step forward and offer any explanation he might wish to urge.

Mr. Oglesby, in a quiet and reasonable manner, said that before September last year, he had not the slightest idea that he was doing anything wrong. He had advertised for years, though not, as he believed, in an objectionable manner—nothing in the way of prices or showcases, or anything of that sort. In England a man was generally cautioned before he was brought before a tribunal of this kind, but he had not had the slightest caution or remonstrance, and it seemed to him not generous on the part either of his opponent or of the Council. When he received the notice the advertisements were discontinued, and in their stead appeared only the card which the committee spoke of as objectionable. With regard to the D.D.S. he obtained that degree, an honorary one, on the production of proofs of his knowledge and skill in the ordinary way. He had no wish to go against the Council in any way, and was prepared to submit to anything they considered desirable.

The answers to the few questions which followed were, probably, not regarded as quite so satisfactory as Mr. Oglesby's attitude towards the Council. With respect to the absence of caution, he admitted having received a notice that advertising was considered objectionable; and Mr. Teale asked what about the large advertisement in big letters said to be painted upon the end of a house? Was it still there? Mr. Oglesby had never thought of that—it was still there, but it simply announced "Oglesby's Dental Surgery" and his address; or if there was any more—it was so long since it was painted he could not be quite sure—there was only a word or two. The honorary American degree was paid for; there was no examination, but proofs of skill were submitted.

Dr. Little drew attention to the statement that Mr. Oglesby was registered as having been in practice before 1878; the defendant certainly did not look old enough to have been practising for twenty-two years. Mr. Oglesby said he was 38, and was in practice, though not independent practice, at the age of 12.

Dr. Hugh Woods, Hon. Secretary of the London and Counties Medical Protection Society, the complainants, argued that it was quite time dentists should be made aware whether advertising was infamous or not, and it was only by bringing the matter in this way before the Council that it could be settled. It was notorious to every member of the medical profession, and to every member of the general public, that the advertisements issued by dentists had reached the lowest depths. One saw them in tram-cars—everywhere, in fact—and many of them were of a most objectionable description. If an honourable profession was to retain its position, it was absolutely necessary that definite steps should be taken to put a stop to this, and he hoped the Council would allow no consideration to interfere with a distinct pronouncement to go forth to the profession that such advertising was infamous in professional conduct.

Dr. McVail asked if Dr. Woods regarded the defendant only as the representative of a class, but was called to order on the reminder from the President that they could not go into the question with Dr. Woods as to what his opinion was.

The Council debated the case for a long time *in camera*; but whether or no for his own particular sins, or as a scapegoat and a warning to others, they came to the conclusion, "after very great consideration," that Mr. Oglesby's name must come off the register.

ANOTHER DENTIST

came before the Council on Friday. This was Owen McBreen, of Wigan, who was in practice before the Act, and having no qualification from any College of Surgeons, advertised and used the letters R.D.S.E., which the Council consider to mean "Registered by the Royal College of Surgeons."

Mr. McBreen in opening a branch practice announced the fact in the parish magazine, but thought the printer was to blame for the letters inserted after his name. Defendant had always supposed, and thought so still, that he was registered by the General Medical Council, and had hitherto so described himself. Dr. McVail was curious to see an advertisement in which a dentist was thus designated, but Mr. McBreen said he had never advertised it. He had apologised for the offence complained of, had promised not to repeat it, and had kept his word. He called himself now simply surgeon-dentist. The Council decided to strike the name of Mr. McBreen off the register.

A DOCTOR'S BILL.

Charles Louis Lumley, L.R.C.P.I., of 1 Jermyu Street, St. James's, S.W., was charged with practising a fraud upon a Mr. Balmer by sending in to him and demanding payment of an account of charges for medical attendance and services rendered to Mr. Balmer's wife, when, as a fact, he had not attended or seen or known Mr. Balmer's wife during the period included in the account. The report of the *Times* on an action for divorce brought by Mr. Balmer three years ago, in which Mr. Lumley was co-respondent, threw some light on the matter. Lumley, it appeared from the facts read by the Council's solicitor from the shorthand writer's transcript made at the time, met Mrs. Balmer at a cycling-club and called to inquire how she was after a slight accident. The acquaintance progressed so rapidly that the lady confided to him her domestic differences, and the fact that she could not get any money out of her husband unless she sent him bills to show that she had been ill. After a friendship of eleven days defendant was so sympathetic that he was prevailed upon to draw up this extraordinary bill in his own name for 19*l.* 10*s.* against Mrs. Balmer and for her benefit. It was further stated that Mr. Lumley subsequently sent in two letters on his own account, one threatening proceedings unless the money was paid, and the other asking Mr. Balmer, if he could not pay the whole of the money, if he would pay half. It was denied that Mr. Lumley had sent these two



MR. LUMLEY.



DR. ALEXANDER.

letters, but when put on his oath and pressed, he could only say that he "had no recollection of having so." Mr. Roskill, counsel for Mr. Lumley, did his best for a doubtful case in a prolonged speech of forensic eloquence, and Mr. Lumley, examined, answered the leading questions put by his counsel aptly enough, but when interrogated by members of the Council he showed some confusion. After a very short consultation the Council ruled that Mr. Lumley's name be erased from the register.

PUPIL OR UNQUALIFIED ASSISTANT?

In the next case Dr. Andrew Alexander, registered in 1885 with the Scotch triple qualifications, Blaydon-on-Tyne, was charged by Dr. Bateman on behalf of the Gateshead Medical Association, with "covering" a person named Tait. Dr. Cox, Hon. Secretary of the Association and Dr. Davis stated that they had seen Mr. Tait, the unqualified assistant complained of, and had heard people say that he had attended them, and that they thought he was qualified. Dr. Davis admitted, on being somewhat heckled by Mr. Horridge, counsel for the accused, that Dr. Alexander had seriously interfered with his practice, which had been in his family for a hundred years, and that he had called his rival a blackleg. There had been disputes between the miners and

the medicos, the latter wanting to raise the terms from 6*d.* to 9*d.*, and Dr. Alexander accepted the 6*d.* A witness told how he had gone to Tait with fictitious pains in the back for which Mr. Tait examined him with a stetho-



DR. DAVIS.



DR. COX.

scope, prescribed, gave him a certificate signed by Dr. Alexander, and was paid half-a-crown.

Mr. Horridge speaking for the defence, argued that Tait was a pupil of Dr. Alexander's, and in the course of his argument he stated that Dr. Alexander had seen a resolution formulated by the Council with regard to unqualified assistants in one of the leading medical journals and cut it out. This read: "These restrictions do not apply to the proper training of *bonâ-fide* pupils or medical students." Here *or* is a misprint for *as*. The cutting was produced and identified as taken from the *British Medical Journal*; it had been cut from a report, and did not come direct from the Council as its authorised pronouncement. Dr. Alexander had acted on this. Mr. Horridge continued to argue that there had not been one bit of concealment. He wrote to the Registrar of the Council, putting before him the facts of the case and asking his advice. The Registrar, in reply, sent him a correct copy of the resolution and said that he was not authorised to add anything, but asked Dr. Alexander to consider whether the conditions of his pupil-assistant could be reconciled with the immediate personal supervision required. That was in January, and proceedings were commenced in March.

Dr. Alexander, who was examined at some length, and who replied promptly and candidly, said that the duties of Tait were dispensing, visits of policy and supererogation, and attending to trifling ailments and clinical cases. He was living two miles off, but was connected with headquarters by telephone. He had told scores and hundreds of people that Tait was unqualified, stated it publicly at the Mechanics' Institute, and had sent in his resignation to the Springfield Lodge because they wanted a qualified man, and it was debated in open lodge.

On Saturday the Council resolved that the charge made against Dr. Alexander had been proved to the satisfaction of the Council, and adjourned the case until next session. The President explained to Dr. Alexander that he would be summoned to appear before the Council in November, and that the Council would expect that he should then produce satisfactory evidence that he had ceased to employ an unqualified person.

On resuming business on Monday

THE PERSONATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT

was presented by Mr. Victor Horsley. The first recommendation of the committee required all applications for registration as medical or dental students under exceptional circumstances to be in the form of a statutory declaration.

It was carried. On No. 2 a discussion which promised to become somewhat warm arose. This recommendation ensures identification of applicants for registration as G.P.'s by means of their handwriting.

The Registrar said that identification by handwriting was useful as corroboration, but that owing to the amount of cross-registering it would not be possible to work it completely. Mr. Horsley was surprised at the hostility manifested to a system which was always used by the Registrar of the Scottish branch, and which was adopted at Government offices and universities. The Registrar protested that there

was no hostility; his only objection was that the scheme was unworkable. Among 1,300 applicants who applied every year for registration there must be some doubtful cases, but if a doubt did arise in his mind he could not be responsible for delay in registration (which might result in a man losing his appointment). When a man presented his diplomas he was entitled to registration. Mr. Brown, fired with zeal in support of Mr. Horsley, referred to the slipshod method of registration implied, which opened the door to personation. If a man rushed in at the last moment for such an important matter as registration he had himself to thank if he lost an appointment. The President checked the speaker's eloquence, though he did not succeed in quenching it, by referring him to Section 15 of the Medical Act, which confirmed the Registrar's statement that on the production of the required documents a man was entitled to registration. At Mr. Horsley's prompting Mr. Brown read Section 14, which laid down that the register was to be kept correctly in accordance with the orders of the Act and of the Medical Council. After considerable time had been occupied in consideration of the value of identification by handwriting, it was discovered, at the instance of Sir John Tuke, that it was doubtful whether the wording of the Act made it possible to interpose any such condition as that of handwriting at all. Though the general opinion was in favour of the recommendation, it was felt that it was absurd to vote against an Act of Parliament, and the whole report, which hinged on the question, was therefore referred back to the committee for them to get legal advice on the matter.

MEDICAL RECIPROCITY.

The rest of the sitting was taken up with consideration of the scheme for reciprocity with Italy, upon which there was a good deal of cross-voting and much speaking. The fear was very generally expressed that if the Council were to register persons holding Italian diplomas, the country would soon be overrun with uneducated foreigners, and the discussion revolved more or less round that point.

As mentioned in the reports of the last meeting of the Council, there has been correspondence between the British and Italian Governments upon the question. British practitioners are permitted to practise in Italy, and the Italians say if their graduates are not allowed to practise in the United Kingdom on the same conditions, the British doctors must leave Italy, or qualify there. The British Government has accordingly drafted an Order in Council in the following terms, and a copy of it was submitted to the Medical Council:—

Whereas by the Medical Act, 1886, it is provided (amongst other things) that her Majesty may from time to time by Order in Council declare that the Second Part of the said Act shall be deemed, on and after a day to be named in such Order, to apply to any Foreign Country which, in her Majesty's opinion, affords to the Medical Practitioners of the United Kingdom such privileges of practising in the said Foreign Country as to her Majesty may seem just, and from and after the day named in such Order in Council such Foreign Country shall be deemed to be a Foreign Country to which the said Act applies, within the meaning of the Second Part thereof, and that until such Order in Council has been made in respect of any Foreign Country the said Second Part, of the said Act shall not be deemed to apply to any such Country.

And whereas the Kingdom of Italy affords, in her Majesty's opinion, to the Registered Medical Practitioners of the United Kingdom such privileges of practising in Italy as to her Majesty seems just.

Now, therefore, her Majesty doth hereby, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, order, direct, and declare that, on and after the day of _____, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred, the Second Part of the Medical Act, 1886, shall be deemed to apply to Italy.

Mr. Horsley first moved that equal reciprocity could not be got as suggested, and Dr. McVail moved as an amendment that the Council did not deem it expedient to offer any opinion on the matter. The amendment was lost and the motion carried, whereupon Dr. Glover moved:—

That the Council would urge her Majesty's Government to use its influence with the Italian Government in promoting legislation on this subject, so as to secure for British practitioners full privilege of practice in Italy, such as would be conceded by the law of this country to Italian practitioners.

This non-committal motion was preferred to Mr. Horsley's, and so Monday's business was finished.

Very little business was got through on Tuesday. The President stated, immediately after the formal preliminaries had been gone through, that he had received an important communication, which would have to be considered

IN CAMERA.

It was considered accordingly for an hour and a half, and when the public were readmitted they were informed that the following resolution had been passed:—

Having regard to the duties of the Irish Branch Council, and to the funds at its disposal, it was necessary for the due execution of the Medical Acts that the General Council should, as part of its expenses, contribute the sum of 500*l.* in aid of the expenses of the Irish Branch Council for the year 1900.

The President said that he had hoped the business of the Council would be concluded on Wednesday, but this last consideration had taken up a good deal of time. He called upon the members, however, to try and finish on Thursday; and when they made up their minds to get through the business on a certain day he knew by experience that they generally did so.

The consideration of the Memorandum on Reciprocity was sent back to the Executive Committee for them to settle points raised by Mr. Tomes.

COLONIAL DENTISTS.

Mr. Bryant brought up the report of the Dental Education and Examination Committee. With regard to an application from the Dental Board of Victoria, the report stated that the regulations which came into force in May, 1899, showed a distinct falling-off from those previously in force, and "that the curriculum exacted falls in some particulars far short of our own on the general medical side of the work," though "as regards the special dental subjects it appears to be adequate." The Council endorsed the opinion of the committee by resolving that it was unable to recognise the diploma granted by the Dental Board of Victoria.

The application from the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Ontario, was much more satisfactory. The College had proposed that a measure of reciprocity in the matter of dental degrees should be instituted between that province and Great Britain; that on either side the Preliminary, apprenticeship, and curriculum of the other be accepted, but that "prior to admission to examination an attendance during the last year be required in the country in which the candidate seeks examination." The committee had ascertained that the dental side of the curriculum was, roughly speaking, the equivalent of our own. On the general side there were weak points, but the committee thought that the extra year of study in this country proposed would bring up the standard to that required, and that, "should the several British licensing bodies, with whom the decision must rest, take a favourable view of the application, the General Medical Council need offer no objection."

The Council accordingly offered no objection, and it was resolved to send a copy of the report to the dental licensing bodies.

Mr. Edwin Lenthall Oldfield, of Melbourne, applied for registration as a colonial dentist under Sections 8 and 10 of the Dentists Act, 1878, and the Council agreed to enter his name in the colonial list. The rest of the sitting was devoted to a communication from the Medical Aids' Association's Committee in regard to the appointment of a Conciliation Board.

TOUTING ASSOCIATIONS.

Mr. Brown opened the proceedings with much vigour on Wednesday with a motion that a copy of the resolution passed by the Council last June, expressing disapproval of the association of practitioners as medical officers with medical-aid insurance-societies which systematically canvassed and advertised, be sent to every practitioner in the kingdom. Mr. Brown contended that it was infamous conduct, and became greatly excited over a touting pamphlet which had been sent him, in spite of the President's interposition that the pamphlet was already under consideration. Ultimately the matter was held over until next session.

THE "PIECEMEAL" PRACTICE.

The Education Committee's reports on the inspection of the examinations of the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, showed

that the Board was endeavouring to maintain the efficiency of its examinations; but the candidates still do not satisfy some of the members of the Council, because they have already passed the whole or parts of their previous examinations before other Boards, and appear by this piecemeal system to seek admission to the medical register.

Mr. Tichborne protested very strongly against this allegation, which was also made in the report, and it was omitted on the motion of Sir John Tuke. After a good deal of wrangling it was decided to inquire generally regarding the piecemeal system of passing, and in seven minutes before tea-time the reports from the Public Health Committee, the Students' Registration Committee, Companies Acts Amendment Bill Committee, and an application for registration were passed. All that the committee have to say about the Companies Bill is that "it now seems doubtful whether the Government intend to proceed with it during the present Session."

EDUCATION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS.

Last session the Education Committee were requested by the Council to obtain from the experts they had consulted a further report, "setting out in full their reasons for the conclusion they had arrived at with regard to the adoption of the Senior and Higher Grade Standard of Preliminary Education"; and this joint report, together with a separate report from each gentleman dealing with his own division of the United Kingdom, was served up in a massive pamphlet of seventy-six pages. The committee state in their report:—

Ample grounds are given for the conclusion that it is impracticable in the existing conditions to require of all intending medical and dental students the standard of general attainments represented by the so-called Senior and Higher Grade examinations. A substantial advance on the present requirements can, however, be made by insisting on improvements in the character and stringency of those "Junior" examinations which can be directly influenced by the Council, and in the case of the others by requiring that candidates offering the corresponding certificates have obtained a higher standard than that of a simple pass. The committee also ask whether the time has not come for fixing a limit of age below which an applicant shall not be allowed to be registered as a medical or dental student, say, sixteen, and it may be advisable to raise the limit to seventeen.

The Committee accordingly recommend—

1. That from and after January 1, 1902, no person shall be registered as a medical or dental student who has not attained the age of 16 years; and that for the purpose of ensuring the observance of this regulation every applicant for registration in the students' registers shall be required to produce satisfactory evidence that this age has been attained.

2. That the Education Committee be authorised to take all needful steps to give effect to the recommendations and suggestions for the improvement of Preliminary examinations contained in the appended joint report of the expert advisers, and to report from time to time to the Council thereupon.

Sir John Tuke, Chairman of the committee, moved its adoption, and it was agreed to after a long debate.

THE B.P.

The Pharmacopœia Committee's report (see page 933) was brought in by Dr. Macalister, who, with reference to the Pharmacopœia library, observed that the committee found that they constantly wanted to refer to works not in their possession, and Dr. Leech made it his business by purchasing, begging, or other means to get together a collection which should form the nucleus of a library to be housed within the Council's walls. He hoped others would likewise look out for valuable books and present them to the committee, which was not rich but very grateful. The report, with a vote of thanks to the book-donors, was adopted on the motion of Dr. Macalister, seconded by Dr. Athill.

ADVERTISING BY DENTISTS.

Sir Dyce Duckworth moved that a copy of the resolution in respect of advertising adopted by the Council on May 20, 1894, be issued to every dentist whose name was on the Dentists' Register. That resolution set out that the issue of advertisements of an objectionable character, and especially of such as contained either claims of superiority over other practitioners or depreciation of them, might easily be carried so far as to constitute infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect. Mr. Tomes seconded the motion, which, after discussion, was carried.

More Notes

BY THE IRRESPONSIBLE CRITIC.

I HAD to break off last week at a point where I could detect no bread and butter in increased comprehensiveness of pharmaceutical examination botany. A carriage customer arrived at the moment, and I had the consummate pleasure of dispensing a prescription, and supplying a half-dozen box of *Gegenüber* at a little above cost. Examinations were my theme, and I proceed.

THE SECOND OPINION which I wish to express is that in the study of *materia medica* the therapeutic side should not be so completely ignored as it is at present in pharmaceutical schools. It is a well-known and greatly-to-be-regretted fact that should the pharmaceutical student learn his *materia medica* from such a work as *Hale White*, he most assiduously strikes his pencil through all the paragraphs on action and therapeutics because they are "not necessary for the examination." And what is the result? The fully-fledged Minor, entering his employer's establishment, is a piece of absolutely raw material as far as talking to medical men is concerned. He, for example, does not know which bodies contract and which dilate the pupil of the eye, and if you were to ask him for the most recent of the alteratives, analgesics, antilithics, antiperiodics, carminatives, cholagogues, diaphoretics, diuretics, or sialagogues, he would most certainly not be able to supply you. In short, the newly-qualified chemist—delightful words—simply "shakes" at having to converse with a medical man, and finds that he has to acquire the therapeutics of "*Martindale*" or "*Squire*" in order to make himself of value; and he vainly regrets that he has not been forced to obtain a general-outline knowledge of the uses of drugs, and bitterly curses himself for having put his pencil through all *Hale White's* therapeutic paragraphs in his student days.

CONCERNING A UNIVERSITY DEGREE FOR PHARMACISTS.—As to a University Doctorate of Pharmacy or Pharmaceutics—"I don't know whether this is pharmacy," as Mr. Carteighe would say—I do not consider it a desirability. It seems to me that people are clamouring for something of this kind to compete with the German Ph.D., and the latter they seem to associate with pharmacy—an entire misconception. No; let us retain the classic B.Sc., London, and more honour to the pharmacist who can obtain it! Do not let us create fresh letters, nor taint this perfect scientific diploma with something pharmaceutical—something of pills, ointments, liniments, and plasters. If any reform is needed in the matter, it is that a pharmacist should in the course of a curriculum be enabled to work out a thesis in some branch of pure chemistry allied to his craft—in alkaloids, for example—on the lines of the German Ph.D., but any further English graduation after that of pharmaceutical chemist should undoubtedly be the B.Sc., London—a pure science examination.

CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS.—We have of late heard much about a curriculum for pharmaceutical students. But how much better would it be to make a commencement by doing away with the existing four examinations per annum. If the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain desires to improve the rising generation of pharmacists, it should start at the root of things, and the root of things is this evil of four examinations per annum. It is an undeniable fact that by having, say, two examinations per annum, the "three-months" man would disappear, the class of student would improve, the training would have been twice as thorough, and amongst a thousand other self-evident advantages such frequent disappointment in the examination-room would vanish (one of Mr. Atkins's ascribed causes of hate of the Society); better feeling would arise; more chemists would become members of the Society. *L'union fait la force*. The very Society itself would become more fully recognised by the public; Parliament could be approached by a representative body; and, finally, companies could be exterminated. *Meliora spero. Excelsior*.

MR. G. A. HODGKINSON, chemist and druggist, Somers Town, N.W., has been appointed Chairman of the Infirmary Visiting Committee of the St. Pancras Board of Guardians.

The Pharmaceutical Aviary.



The Welcome Bird.

This is a very compact and fascinating bird. It lives on tabloids. It is not often seen in London, as it prefers the warmer climate of the Canaries. In fact, if it stays in England late on into the year, a beautiful ruffle appears round its neck. It may be easily distinguished by its handsome appearance, and particularly by its slightly striped wings and starred breast. It warbles in low, soft tones, is dainty in its banquets, and is reputed to be very fond of large pumpkins. It has never mated.

Personalities.

MR. CHARLES UMNEY has declined his nomination as a juror for the Paris Exhibition.

THE degree of Bachelor of Music (Oxon.) is to be conferred on Mr. Geo. R. H. Clark, a member of the Snow Hill staff of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., on Friday, June 1. Mr. Clark, who is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, passed the Minor examination of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1892, and has been with Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. since then.

IN THE JUNE NUMBER of the *Sub-Postmaster*, just issued, there appears a sketch of Mr. F. C. Coates, chemist, Nottingham. Mr. Coates is a member of the Executive of the National Federation of Sub-Postmasters, and acknowledgment is made of his excellent services to that body. Mr. Coates is the proprietor of half a dozen pharmacies in Nottingham and is about to add a seventh. He is a native of Sudbury, Suffolk, where he served his apprenticeship with the well-known Quaker-chemist, John Oxley. Having passed the Preliminary, he had experience as assistant at Southampton and afterwards with Mr. E. B. Stamp, pharmaceutical-chemist, Hampstead. After a course at the South London School of Pharmacy, under Dr. Muter, he passed the Minor, and was appointed manager of a business in Bristol. Six months later he was offered a partnership, but declined, and shortly afterwards bought a business at Nottingham, which, as before stated, he has now multiplied by six. Mr. Coates in his earlier days took an interest in aquatics and carried off many prizes.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

THE "PUNCH" CARTOON, representing Mr. Chamberlain as a pharmacist behind his counter with a kangaroo bringing a prescription to be dispensed, was curious in several respects. The prescription on a sheet of paper, foolscap size, was remarked upon last week; but where can be found nowadays a dispensing-chemist wearing an apron? They used to wear them in the days when Sir John Tenniel and I were young; but I have not seen one for many a long year. And, again, what on earth is the meaning of the description of Mr. Chamberlain as "Colonial Chemist and Druggist, according to the British Pharmacopœia"? The whole point of the joke, such as it is, is that Mr. Chamberlain keeps the Imperial dispensary, so he cannot be a colonial chemist. But a chemist "according to the British Pharmacopœia!" I give that up altogether.

SIR THOMAS ROBINSON, knight and pharmaceutical chemist, of Kingstown, at all events, can never wear an apron again. I am glad to read of his knighthood, for Sir Thomas is a good pharmacist, and a smart man. But along with their congratulations his fellow-pharmacists can hardly repress a few little pangs of sympathy for him if they try to realise the daily difficulties of his dignity. He can, of course, never go behind the counter again, except at night, and it is not easy to assign to him any suitable section of the work of his firm. His two partners are both his seniors, a circumstance which also adds to the complication. He is not the first one connected with the Irish drug-trade to be knighted, Sir James Haslett, M.P., being a Belfast druggist. I can only remember a single English precedent. That was Sir Peter Spokes, of Reading, who was knighted some thirty or forty years ago, but I forget the exact occasion.

THE PROMISCUOUS SALE OF DANGEROUS MEDICINES is the subject of a letter in the *Lancet*, the writer of which states that he can buy threepennyworth of laudanum at any druggist's shop, and says a servant of his had been taking 40 gr. of sulphonal and more for several consecutive nights from a bottle of tablets, which she bought at a chemist's shop for 10d. "What a lot of use our Poisons Act is!" he remarks. It is of some use, all the same, even though it does not make it impossible for the public to buy laudanum, and has nothing to say to the supply of the modern synthetic remedies. The unchecked sale of these medicines, however, is undoubtedly a very serious matter. That a knowledge of the properties of sulphonal, antipyrin, and phenacetin has filtered down to the servant-maid class is a fact which cannot be regarded with unmixed satisfaction. Remedies of this character are not taken in quantities and at pleasure with impunity; another generation will probably suffer for the imprudence of this one. But what more effectual than an occasional letter or paragraph in a technical journal can be done to prevent the abuse? My belief is that if the higher-class chemists, as well as the lower-class ones, had during the past thirty years shown more respect for the intentions of the Pharmacy Act, the sale of all these medicines would have been given to them exclusively; and there should have been no better method of confining the supply within proper limits than by entrusting it to a class of men who understood the risk, and whose consciences would be stronger than their business instincts. Chemists have looked on the poisons schedule as a sort of reward to them for passing the examinations, and not as a trust for the good of the community. Perhaps, however, a better appreciation of their

responsibilities in reference to it is growing up amongst us and our successors may reap the advantages of greater confidence in pharmacists that we are deprived of.

STORE-BUSINESS for the last reported completed year is carefully tabulated in last week's *Statist*, and the figures offer many points of interest. The stores dealt with are the Army and Navy, the Civil Service Supply, the Army and Navy Auxiliary, the Junior Army and Navy, the Civil Service Co-operative, and the New Civil Service. These six companies did a total business last year of 6,871,070l., which was an increase of 300,000l. over the preceding year. The Army and Navy Stores did nearly half of the total (3,276,968l.), the Civil Service Supply Association did 1,741,770l., and the other stores in the order named sold goods to the amount of 667,000l., 646,000l., 420,000l., and 118,000l. respectively. The New Civil Service Company reports a loss of 1,028l. on the year's working, which seems to show that a shop of that kind cannot compete with its bigger rivals on a trade of 100,000l. or so a year. All the other stores made profits, and handsome ones. The Army and Navy Society netted 211,241l., and as its paid-up capital is only 60,000l. in 4s. shares, it was able to declare a dividend of 250 per cent. Its 4s. shares are at present worth 12l. each. The Civil Service Supply Association's net profits reached 53,684l., and its shareholders received 12½ per cent. The 1l. shares in this company are worth now 2l. 15s. The Army and Navy Auxiliary, which is a concern controlled by its big brother, and intended specially to handle perishable goods, made 38,692l., and paid 37½ per cent. The Junior Army and Navy and the Civil Service Co-operative Stores made 15,000l. and 10,000l. profit respectively, and paid 6½ and 7 per cent. dividends.

THE WORKING-EXPENSES of the whole of these businesses averaged 9.31 per cent. of the sales. The Army and Navy's proportion (8.12 per cent.) was the lowest, while it cost the Civil Service Co-operative Society 13.29 per cent. of its income to earn it. It may be worth while to compare the expenses of these great concerns with those which little traders have to face. Taking the grand totals it appears that salaries and wages (including directors' fees) averaged 6.33 per cent. on the sales. Consequently, a tradesman selling 1,000l. worth of goods per annum could only spend 63l. on this item, and that would have to include payment for his own services, in order to be on an equal footing with his gigantic rivals. His charges for rent, rates, taxes, gas, and insurance would have to be limited to 9l., his stationery, printing, and postage to 8l., repairs, law, interest, and miscellaneous expenses altogether to 13l., to correspond with the stores' costs under these headings; and then, if he had bought and sold at their rates, he would find himself with 47l. clear in his pocket at the end of the year. I am afraid the comparison is not encouraging to the small trader, but to chemists the moral that they should cultivate with all their energy the professional developments of their business is very clear.

LORD SALISBURY'S OPPOSITION to the Shops (Early-closing) Bill was formidable, and the majority against the measure in the House of Lords looks crushing. But the fact remains that a very strong weight of trading-opinion is in favour of the Bill, and I hope Lord Avebury will not drop it. If I might presume to offer him a word of advice, it would be that he should change the majority required for enforcement of the law in any particular locality from two-thirds to nine-tenths. That is to say, he should reduce his claim to the lowest possible limit. Even Lord Salisbury would agree that the tyranny of a minority should stop somewhere.

★ **"SANITAS"** ★
EMBROICATION
 3d., 1/-, and 2/6 Bottles.
"SANITAS"
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DISINFECTANTS

SULPHUR FUMIGATING CANDLES (Kingzett's Patents)
 6d., 9d., and 1/- each.

"FORMIC-SULPHUGATORS," 1/- & 1/6 each.
 PRESERVED PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN
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MOTH PAPER, BLOCKS AND CRYSTALS,
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★ THE SANITAS CO., LIMITED, BETHNAL GREEN, LONDON,
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WATER.

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 London Agents: W. LEST & SONS, 22 Henrietta Street, W.
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FARRINGDON ROAD, LONDON, E.C.			
No. 1 Finest Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	19/-	Finest Pure STARCH POWDER	18/-
No. 2 Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	18/-	No. 1 Finest Light Pure PRECIPITATED CHALK	25/-
Best Cleaned LINSEED OIL	19/-	No. 2 Pure PRECIPITATED CHALK	21/-
No. 1 Finest Pure FULLER'S EARTH (Light Colour)	15/-	Finest Levigated "WHITE EARTH" (Toilet purposes)	18/-
Finest TART ACID	Lowest Car. Prices	Finest Pure TOILET OATMEAL, SPECIAL	32/-
Finest Pure LIQUORICE JUICE	10/-	Finest ARROWROOT	9 lb.

* CARRIAGE PAID to Railway Stations within 200 miles of London (no allowance made for distances beyond) on a total weight of 112 lbs. and upwards of above articles. Smaller parcels delivered free on rail London at store prices.

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PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS.

There are many worrying difficulties to be overcome in connection with the Registration of Trade Marks and the grant of Letters Patent, which members of the Retail and Wholesale Drug Trade can avoid by consulting an efficient agent, who would undertake all the trouble for an inclusive fee and obtain protection in the United Kingdom and abroad. Advice in the first instance free.

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 THE IDEAL TONIC
 NUTRIENT
Fletcher, Fletcher & Co., London & Sydney.

Editorial Comments.

Advertising by Dentists.

"The Act appears to be carefully framed to restrict the right of the General Council to interfere with registered dental practitioners in the practice of their profession to the cases where there are the grave reasons for disqualification specified in Section 13."—*Mr. Justice Mathew, High Court of Justice*
 June 15, 1897.

ON Thursday of last week the General Medical Council came to a resolution which is likely to be memorable. Mr. Arthur Oglesby, a chemist and druggist and registered dentist, was summoned to appear before the Council to answer a charge of infamous conduct in a professional respect, he having advertised, and although he expressed himself willing to meet any reasonable instructions of the Council as to advertising, his name was directed to be

removed from the Dentists' Register. This is the first case of the kind since the 1878 Act came into force. The name of another dentist has been removed for advertising, but he held a diploma on condition that he did not advertise, and having violated that condition, the Council may have been entitled to consider his conduct dishonourable. The present case is different, as the person punished was registered as having been in practice before the Act, and he had neither given, nor was he required by law to give, any undertaking not to advertise his business. The name of a second dentist was also removed from the register on the day following.

These cases are "warnings to all and sundry" that the General Medical Council is determined to support the action of those busybodies in regard to professional purity who desire to make dentists amenable to the code of ethics which is tacitly recognised for medical practitioners. Practically the General Council has declared war against advertising by any dentist, and as this declaration seriously affects the interests of many chemists and druggists, we ask careful attention to the facts in Mr. Oglesby's case. We need not detail the second case, because the offender there used the suffix R.D.S.E., letters which we have already stated (*C. & D.*, January 27, page 151) should not be used except by persons who hold the Edinburgh or English Royal College of Surgeons' Licence. Having stopped the use of these letters this offender will have little difficulty in getting his name restored to the register. It is different with advertising, which the Court of Queen's Bench has indicated, through Mr. Justice Mathew, not to be one of the grave reasons for de-registration specified in Section 13 of the Dentists Act.

The facts in Mr. Oglesby's case are as follows:—In August of the Secretary of the London and Counties Medical Protection Society (Limited) informed the Medical Council that, "contrary to the honourable practice of his profession," Mr. Oglesby advertised. The offender was informed of this charge, and he replied that now that his attention was called to the matter he thought his advertisements, "written by an expert . . . perhaps exceeded the bounds of good taste," and he would drop them and merely use a card with name and address. Nevertheless the matter came before the Council at the December meeting, and Mr. Oglesby was informed on January 17 of this year "that information, supported by evidence, has been laid before the Council by which it is alleged that you have been guilty of infamous and disgraceful conduct in a professional respect," by seeking "to attract professional practice by a systematic issue of public advertisements of an objectionable character," which appeared in a local paper on dates specified. The advertisements referred to were simply smartly-written advertisements in the American style, of which the following is the simplest example:—

"I will do the best dental work that skill, experience, and superior facilities make possible. I will charge you as little as—often less than—you will be asked to pay for much cheaper work. That's all.—ARTHUR OGLESBY, Dental Surgeon, Barnsley.

We may state that Mr. Oglesby supplied the Council with copies of all his advertisements in the same spirit as he would have sent labels to Somerset House for approval. The letter of January 17 told Mr. Oglesby that the Dental Committee of the Council, which has powers under the Act, would investigate the matter on February 27, and invited him to attend. In his letter accepting the invitation Mr. Oglesby explained that he did not exhibit artificial teeth, &c. to attract custom, nor advertise prices, and his sole advertisement since September, 1899, to that date was the following card in the newspapers:—

ARTHUR OGLESBY, D.D.S.,
Dental-Surgeon, Eng.

Special attention given to the Painless Extraction of Teeth, by the administration of Nitrous-Oxide Gas and other anæsthetics. Scientifically filling decayed Teeth permanently with suitable fillings.

The painless treatment of exposed Nerves of Teeth and the curing of Abscesses.

Artificial Teeth:—All known and successful systems of adjusting the finest specimens of Artificial Teeth, and generally undertaking every branch of Dentistry.

Surgery Hours: 9 A.M. to 7 P.M.

CHEAPSIDE, BARNSELY.

[This advertisement occupied 6 inches in the column.]

The "card" was Mr. Oglesby's undoing. The committee deprived of the previous advertisements seized upon the D.D.S., a paltry thing purchased from the University of Illinois, and which Mr. Oglesby admitted in the words of the committee "he had obtained without visiting America, or being subjected to any examination." The committee considered the advertisements issued by Mr. Oglesby "highly objectionable," and while reporting that he had discontinued the advertisements first brought under the notice of the Council he still advertised "an objectionable card." Upon these grounds Mr. Oglesby's name was removed from the register.

It is clear from this narration of facts that the Dental Committee had to shift the ground for erasure during the investigation, as the original offence had been discontinued by Mr. Oglesby, and they adopted a reason for erasure the evidence of which was unwittingly supplied by the culprit himself. The conduct of the Council in acting upon this report is far from being consonant with the dignity of a judicial chamber; a rebuke and advice from the chair would have been more consistent with the merits of the case; but the extreme measure adopted by the Council is perhaps the best thing that could have happened for the sake of those who consider that reasonable advertisement in the dental business is not the "infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect" which Section 13 of the Dentists Act contemplates. There are two ways of getting a name restored to the register after removal—first, to stop the conduct objected to and satisfy the Council thereon; second, by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, such as the Court of Queen's Bench. As we understand that the erasures of last week are the forerunners of a general attack upon registered dentists who advertise, it seems desirable that the opinion of the Court should be obtained on the question, Is advertising "infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect"? Further, the fourth paragraph of Section 13 of the Act, which reads as follows, leaves room for forensic argument:—

Provided that the name of a person shall not be erased under this section on account of his adopting or refraining from adopting the practice of any particular theory of dentistry or dental surgery, nor on account of a conviction for a political offence out of her Majesty's dominions, nor on account of a conviction for an offence which, though within the provisions of this section, does not, either from the trivial nature of the offence or from the circumstances under which it was committed, disqualify a person for practising dentistry.

It was of this paragraph that Mr. Justice Mathew used the words which head this article. Mr. Partridge, who applied for the mandamus in that case, had advertised, and the Judge apparently implied by his words that that action was of the trivial nature referred to in the clause; but the context of the judgment does not make this clear, nor is it quite certain that the wording of the clause includes the finding of the General Council as a "conviction." These are points which there is now an opportunity of settling. If the General Council is a legal tribunal, its findings in what it calls

"penal cases" are convictions, and, if so, it should not be difficult to get a ruling by the Court of Queen's Bench to the effect that advertising is a trivial offence which does not disqualify a person for practising dentistry. A test-case on this point does not come within the scope of the Dental Fund which we instituted four years ago. The object of that was to substantiate the right of unregistered dentists to perform dental operations. The present matter is one which registered dentists are solely interested in, and it is worth a fight.

Oil of Peppermint.

AMERICAN peppermint oil has never been so low in price as it is now. The well-known "HGH" brand of oil, which is taken as the standard, has been offering in five-case lots on this market since the beginning of the year at from 5s. 3d. to 5s. 6d. per lb., and it is possible to buy larger quantities at less. This figure is about half the price at which "HGH" oil has been sold in recent years, for in 1890 the market quotation was 11s. to 11s. 6d. There has been a steady decline in prices during the decade in all brands of American oil, and some of them have been selling at much lower figures than the price quoted. The cause of the decline is traceable to the high prices which ruled ten years ago. These stimulated peppermint-cultivation in the Michigan and other districts until a point was reached which everybody considered to be over-production; but as this has now been going on for several years in the face of diminishing prices, the prophets of evil and scarcity may have to reconsider their view. It is yet too early to form an estimate of the coming American crop, but already unfavourable reports are being circulated, it being stated that the yield will probably be shorter than last year, as many of the farmers have abandoned the cultivation of peppermint in favour of heetroot, which they find more profitable. As a rule, these reports are received with reserve, and in that connection we may refer to our New York correspondent's report on May 8 that "the new crop is expected to be much above last year's yield, and lower prices may rule." He then announced a decline of 5c. per lb., and again in his cable of last week a further reduction of 3c. He is in a good position to appreciate the undercurrents of the American market, and is never slow to put the facts pretty straight. Anything in the nature of a sudden and large decrease in the crops seems improbable from the experience of last year, when the same thing was predicted, but it did not come off. The crop was only slightly smaller than the year before, but not small enough for those who had bought oil for a rise.

In Japanese oil of peppermint similar conditions prevail. Our Yokohama correspondent reports that there has been a considerable over-production there during recent years, and the future prospects of the article do not inspire confidence, for we are informed that the plantations this year in the important districts of Uzen, Bingo, and Bitchin are said to be double that of the preceding year, and if the weather be favourable the crop may amount to from 160,000 cattiees (213,000 lbs.) to 200,000 cattiees (236,000 lbs.). These figures include menthol. Moreover, the present stock in Kobe and the producing districts is estimated at not less than 80,000 cattiees (106,000 lbs.), which is less than the average annual export for twelve months. Messrs. Schimmel & Co., in their April report, estimate the stock in Japan at about 50,000 cattiees, but their representatives consider this figure too low. It is about fifteen years since the exportation of Japanese peppermint oil assumed important proportions, but since 1896 the demand has materially lessened owing to increased production in the United States. The following

figures relating to the exports from Yokohama and Kobe show this:—

—	Peppermint Oil	Menthol
	Lbs.	Lbs.
1894	77,078	28,180
1895	42,533	41,114
1896	114,064	80,000
1897	35,840	40,970
1898	26,414	34,120
1899	38,121	45,222

The present condition of the Japanese market is described as "weak," owing to the heavy stock and the local competition among holders, who are eager for what little business there is. The quotation on April 12 had declined to 4.80 yen per catty for menthol, and 1.80 yen for oil with still lower tendency, as the chief exporters had no orders in hand, and did not wish to buy, however low the price. There was a little speculation by Japanese merchants in December when 20,000 cattiees changed hands; but there was a reaction in the following month, and the market has since remained quiet. The London market has had the same downward tendency all this year, and menthol is 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per lb. cheaper to-day than it was on January 1. Both the natural and dementholised oils of peppermint have also declined about 9d. per lb., and unless any active buying movement should take place, it is hard to suppose, judging from the present prospects in Japan, that higher prices are likely to prevail. The English crop of peppermint is still too young to say much about; but prices of the best brands of Mitcha oil are fairly steady.

Division of the "Minor."

HOW THE EXAMINATION HAS GROWN IN STRINGENCY.

THE present is an appropriate time for laying before chemists and druggists some facts in regard to the Qualifying examination under the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which may assist in placing those interested *au fait* with the circumstances which have culminated in the demand for the division of the examination. It is officially admitted by the Boards of Examiners and the Pharmaceutical Council are not unwilling to agree to division on conditions which are not yet formulated, but which are broadly expressed in the two words—compulsory curriculum. We propose in this and other articles to deal with the whole matter in an unpolemical manner, and to-day we trace the evolution of the examination from the pre-1868 condition to its present state.

Before the Act passed and for some time after the subject of the Minor and Major examination were the same—viz. the dispensing and translation of prescriptions, pharmaceutical chemistry, the chemistry of poisons, pharmacology, materia medica, and botany. Minor candidates got a prescription dispense, but no practical chemistry. The first change was effected in June, 1869, when the Pharmaceutical Council, in accordance with altered by-laws approved in the previous year, sanctioned new regulations which introduced a metric system into and more clearly defined the Minor examination. The Major syllabus then revised included the same subjects, and it is noticeable that the materia medica, botany, and chemistry were not nearly so comprehensive as the same subjects in the present Minor schedule.

The second change was effected in 1874, after a great deal of controversy. The Council then altered the by-laws, making it necessary after December 31, 1874, for all Mi-

andidates to be 21 years of age before admission, and after December 31, 1876, everyone had to produce evidence that he had been three years practically engaged in the translation and dispensing of prescriptions. The first of these suggestions was objected to, because it would prevent assistants passing and getting situations, this objection arising from the feeling which then still obtained that the Minor examination was the assistants' examination. The second provision was originally phrased as follows:—

No person shall be admitted to the Minor examination who is not been engaged or employed as an assistant, apprentice, or student for at least three years previously.

The Solicitor of the Society advised the Council that this went beyond the powers conferred by the Act, therefore it was altered to the other terms, much to the regret of those who saw in the three years' term, after the Preliminary examination, an assurance of training not otherwise obtainable. Eleven years later the Privy Council adopted the Solicitor's view in refusing to sanction amended by-laws, which appeared not to give the free access to the examination which is stipulated by the Act.

Before the changes as to age and experience came into force the examination schedule was revised and extended, and came into operation in October, 1874. This syllabus marked a distinct increase in stringency. The pharmacy schedule of the Major examination (from which pharmacy and dispensing were removed) was adopted, and included practical knowledge of processes, while to chemistry were added testing, a general knowledge of the laws of chemical philosophy, and practical knowledge of the means of determining specific gravities, &c. The method of conducting the examination at the same time began to be more formal than before; the examiners now regarded it as a serious business, and ceased to hesitate in rejecting incompetent men. There was in consequence a great outcry about the examination being too severe and too scientific. This condition gradually hardened, and although the syllabus remained the same from 1874 to 1891 the examination had become much more searching. The failures had been steadily increasing, and the pharmaceutical authorities, attributing this to inefficient training rather than increased stringency of the examination, sought in 1883 through a Pharmacy Bill, in 1885 by law, and again by a Bill in 1887 to enforce a curriculum, but failed in all.

The third change in the printed regulations was then decided upon, and in October, 1891, an enormously extended schedule came into force. This change looked more formidable than it really was, because it chiefly defined the previously undefined, but it added a number of branches, such as practical operations in pharmacy, the use of the microscope in botany, elementary knowledge of carbon compounds, organic analysis, volumetric determinations, detection of alkaloids, and generally, the chemistry of the examination was made much more searching. A whole day was now devoted to practical work and another to the oral examination. To these extensions was added in January, 1893, knowledge of the statutory conditions for the sale of poisons, thus making a fourth change. The fifth came with the introduction of testing examiners, unless we reckon the increase of the fee from three to five guineas in 1893 as an addition to the stringency. The regulations were again altered last year, when classification and physiology were included in botany, the range of chemical analysis was extended, the list of unofficial drugs for recognition was enlarged, and greater knowledge of the morphological characters of drugs was specified. In 1870 candidates got through the examination comfortably in two hours; in 1900 they have to spend two days over it, and this fact alone is eloquent of the enormously increased burden.

THE DOYEN OF WHOLESALEERS.

Our congratulations to Mr. C. J. Hewlett, senior partner of the firm of Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, who attained his 90th year on May 29. We are pleased to state that Mr. Hewlett is in good health, although somewhat feeble through advancing years, but still takes great interest in business. Mr. Hewlett is the *doyen* of the British wholesale drug-trade, his business career dating back to 1832.

AT THE FRONT.

This week we have had the peculiar, and, we fancy, unique experience of receiving a subscription to the *C. & D.* from a chemist "at the front." The subscriber is with the Natal Field Force. He begins his epistle, "Enclosed please find P.O.O. 10s., being my subscription for 1900," and he ends it, "The news-correspondents have kept you well posted up as to events that have happened here during the war, so that I can hardly add anything further."

THE "PRESS" ON "PUNCH."

Somebody should take care of the *Medical Press* annotator. This week he makes *Punch's* Imperial Dispensary cartoon the basis of a laborious attack on chemists for counter-prescribing. The value of his utterance may be judged from the fact that he calls the artist "Mr. Tenniel." We admit with this antediluvian person that the man in the street regards the man behind the counter as an authority on medical matters, and if the *Press* artist in impertinent phraseology would spend a few weeks there he would learn the reason why. That is the "conscientious investigation" which he is most in need of.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

The irresponsible critic who occasionally favours us with his thoughts on things in general puts forward a really excellent suggestion this week in regard to the Minor examination—viz., that it should be held only twice a year. The express object of this would be to encourage a longer period of study at pharmacy schools than at present obtains. The same thing would to a large extent be obtained by referring unsuccessful students back to their studies for six months; but the suggestion in either form is well worth consideration.

"JUST AS IF SHE WERE A MAN."

It was cruel of the Linlithgow Sheriff to treat the fair unqualified seller of poisons whom he had before him last week with the condescension which we all give to her sex socially. In business, in the battle of life, or other line of effort which she chooses for herself, woman desires neither fear nor favour, and it is man's duty to treat her as an equal. Her right is the full penalty—with costs. The brilliant example of womanhood which the Sheriff had before him appears to have overcome him somewhat, otherwise we should not have had him say that "chemists all over the country would engage attractive young ladies as their assistants, with the result that the law would be of no avail." We have no objection to chemists engaging themselves to attractive young ladies—within limits it is right and proper that they should do so—but their efforts should be strictly confined to the hygienic sphere of action, and not for the purpose of evading the Pharmacy Act.

A PENNY SHOP.

Something new in the drug-line has been opened in Lambeth Walk recently, where, under the title of the Eclipse Drug-stores, a well-equipped shop has been fitted up. It is solely devoted to packed goods, and every article is supplied at 1d., there being some hundreds of medicines to select from. The proprietor makes no charge for the bottles, and professes not to charge more than 1d. for anything. Apart from ordinary medicinal remedies this store makes a point of selling spices and other trifles of that kind

in the same seductive fashion. If this element of competition finds favour, registered chemists will feel it almost as severely as they have done limited companies.

KOKO PRICES.

We should like to get at the bottom of the cutting in Koko prices. A fortnight since we gave publicity to an explanation by the makers regarding their offer of trial-bottles at 2s. 5d., when they explained that they never sell more than one bottle to one person. A day or two after the company wrote this explanation Mason & Co. (Limited), cash store chemists, North Shields, had a "sale," and in one of the handbills respecting it we find the following announcement:—

Important.—We have made special arrangements with the Koko-Maricopas Company (Limited) to sell during our sale their 4s. 6d. bottles of Koko Hair-restorer at 2s. 4d. each, instead of our regular reduced price, 3s. 8d.

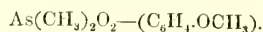
If the makers of this preparation can afford to allow it to be cut to this extent by arrangement, they should reduce the price straightway to half-a-crown and be done with it. The face figure is apparently as much honoured in the breach as in the observance.

PROFESSIONAL VIEWS ON DENTISTS' ADVERTISING.

In connection with the removal of dentists' names from the register on account of advertising, it is interesting to note that in March, 1893, Mr. Morton Smale, a well-known metropolitan dentist, was clearly of opinion that the one course to be pursued in regard to advertising by dentists was to leave it severely alone. Mr. Smale then held the view that the General Medical Council had no power to impose restrictions upon registered dentists, and therefore could not stop advertising. The *Medical Press* in July of 1894 also put forward the view that the General Medical Council had no power to make advertising by dentists unlawful, as it then proposed to do, and so warned dentists; while the *Lancet*, referring to a petition to the Council which was then being promoted, and which proposed to ask the Council to make advertising "infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional sense," stated that it seemed very doubtful whether the General Medical Council had any power to move in the matter. These expressions of opinion are worth remembering in the view of the present action by the Council. There was established at that time a Dentists' Association to protect their rights in regard to advertising. What has become of it? There is an excellent opportunity for its action in the cases which have now been decided.

GUAIACOL CACODYLATE.

The success attending the inorganic compounds of cacodyl has been extended to organic preparations, and Barbary and Rebec have prepared and described a well-defined compound under the name cacodyliacal, or guaiacol cacodylate (*Bull. des Sciences Pharm.*, 1900, 257). It forms a white crystalline powder, is very hygroscopic, soluble in water, alcohol, or glycerin, with a slight caustic taste and alliaceous odour. It has the formula



According to its discoverers, it is "the remedy *par excellence* for tuberculosis." As far as experiments have yet gone, medication either *per os* or by hypodermic injection in the region affected has given most excellent results.

MR. G. P. PHILPOTS, wholesale and retail druggist, Castlemaine and Maldon, Victoria, is now in this country on a visit. Since he landed, ten days ago, Mr. Philpots has had rather a sharp attack of bronchitis, an old enemy which he wished to avoid when he emigrated to Australia. He has now recovered. Mr. Philpots is a registered chemist and druggist of Great Britain, and will be in this country during the summer months.

The British Pharmacopœia.

REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 30.

AFTER expressing regret at the illness of Dr. Leech (Chairman), the committee stated that 31,500 copies of the British Pharmacopœia of 1898 have been printed, and 28,783 of these have passed into circulation, leaving in hand 2,717 copies. The Privy Council had forwarded a note from the Belgian Minister regarding the International Pharmacopœia, and recommended that, should an International Conference on the subject be arranged, the Council should appoint representatives.

Another meeting of the conference of members of the Pharmacopœia Committee with representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland had been held, and on its recommendation certain questions of a pharmacological and pharmaceutical nature have been referred to experts for further investigation and report.

Communications had been opened with the United States authorities with a view to bringing about greater uniformity in the official preparations contained in the British Pharmacopœia and the United States Pharmacopœia respectively, and it was hoped that, by mutual concessions, important approximations and assimilations in the contents of the two works might be ultimately secured.

Further communications had been received with reference to the Indian and Colonial Addendum, and important suggestions from Canada had been considered by the committee in detail. It was hoped that a final draft of the Addendum might be presented to the Council at the November meeting and the Addendum itself authorised for issue by the end of the year. From three only of the seventy areas of British administration have replies still to be received.

By the assiduous efforts of Dr. Leech, a valuable collection (102) of British and foreign works bearing on the history and development of the Pharmacopœia had been got together, and deposited in the Council's office. Thanks were expressed to Dr. Leech, Mr. Bryant, Mr. Ekin, and Mr. Walter Hills for important contributions to this collection, and the committee hoped that from time to time further additions might be made to it by members of the Council and others. Appended to this report was one by Dr. Atfield on the progress of the Indian and Colonial addendum from November 29, 1899, to May 28, 1900. He informed the Council that since his last report the following fourteen dependencies have expressed satisfaction with the already largely imperialised British Pharmacopœia of 1898, and state that they have not at present any suggestions to make respecting the further official recognition of important native drugs—viz., Antigua, the Bahamas, Bermuda, Dominica, the Falklands, Gambia, Gold Coast, Labuan, Lagos, Mauritius, Newfoundland, the Seychelles, the Virgin Islands, Zululand. The three which still hold out are the Bechuanaland Protectorate, British New Guinea, and St. Christopher and Nevis.

Reference was then made to the Madras report (*C. & D.* February 24, 1900, page 324). Since then the President of the Medical Council approached the Secretary of State for India on April 20, and it is stated that with the further help of the Madras Committee and the subsequent assistance of the Indigenous Drugs Committee the British Pharmacopœia will sooner or later meet the medical requirements of every one of the fourteen provinces of India. The African Colonies have not, in the present circumstances, done much in the matter, but a medical and pharmaceutical committee in New South Wales have made useful suggestions respecting the draft addendum, and the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand and Otago Pharmaceutical Association have also reported. The reports by the Eastern Colonies were referred to in February; since then Dr. Van Dort has replied questions put to him, and Surgeon-General Bidie (Retd. C.I.E.), has sent some useful notes on drugs.

Dr. N. S. Fraser, of St. John's, Newfoundland, states that there being no official body there to deal with the subject he might say that the British Pharmacopœia suffices for the requirements of the Colony. As a result of communication with Dr. Adami, President of the Canadian Committee, the Canadian list of medicines was divided into two classes

(1) twelve which would be restricted to the North American Colonies and which might at once be placed in the Canadian Section of the Addendum, and (2) eighteen which might find wider recognition in the text of the Pharmacopœia itself, either at the next revision or at the time of publication of "Additions." The Canadian Committee accepted this division, but still desire to see a few of the articles of the second class placed in the first division, and the revised list was received on May 21.

The general conclusion is that all the dependencies recommend forty or fifty medicinal plants and about as many pharmaceutical preparations thereof for recognition in the Addendum, and not one of the Medical and Pharmaceutical Incorporated Authorities in Her Majesty's seventy dependencies now considered has expressed opinions adverse to the expansion of the British Pharmacopœia into an Imperial British Pharmacopœia (a) by the removal of former (1885) restrictions as to medicinal plants grown in Britain; (b) by the adoption in the current Pharmacopœia of most of the large number of "suggestions" received from Indian and Colonial authorities as printed in the Indian and Colonial report of May 29, 1895; and (c) by the publication of the projected Indian and Colonial Addendum to the British Pharmacopœia of 1898.

Plymouth Chemists' Association.

THE quarterly meeting of this Association was held on Wednesday, May 30, when there were present Messrs. F. Maitland (President), G. Breeze, W. H. Woods, C. T. Veary, F. Hunt, J. Cocks, H. D. Davey, J. G. Netting, J. Davy Turney, C. O. Park, J. Park, J. Lamble, and S. Body.

The President announced that the committee had appointed a sub-committee with the object of procuring more central rooms for the Association, the sub-committee consisting of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and Messrs. Cocks and Veary.

The Secretary reported that it was proposed to hold the annual summer outing on July 11 at Totnes and Berry Pomeroy, and to ask chemists and friends at Exeter, Dawlish, Bournemouth, Newton Abbot, Torquay, and other towns to join.

Mr. Cocks suggested the desirability of inviting members to contribute papers and open discussions on subjects of interest to members generally, and it was decided to act upon that suggestion.

The President next presented to Mr. C. J. Park a handsome tea-and-coffee service, as a mark of esteem in anticipation of his marriage. Mr. Maitland remarked that the Association regarded this opportunity as a favourable one in which to show their appreciation of the very many services Mr. Park had rendered to the Association, and to pharmacy generally. As president of the Association, and as member of the committee almost from its formation, Mr. Park had rendered most valuable aid, and the prosperity of the Association was due in a great measure to that assistance. As a member of the Pharmaceutical Council also he had spared neither time nor expense to represent them efficiently. He idea to make the presentation was most heartily received by the members, forty-two of whom subscribed most readily. On behalf of the Association he offered hearty congratulations, and wished Mr. Park and his future wife every happiness.

Messrs. Cocks, Turney, Barge, Lamble, Woods, Hunt, Veary, Davey, and Breeze added their congratulations to those of the President, all bearing testimony to the earnest and unselfish manner in which Mr. Park had devoted himself to the work of association and interests of craft generally.

Mr. Park, in reply, expressed his indebtedness to the members for all they had done for him. Three times they had elected him President, and by their action had put him in the proud position of being a member of the Pharmaceutical Council of Great Britain. It was thought they wanted more members on the Council who did not represent historic houses. He was sure all the members of the Council with whom he had come in contact were familiar with the requirements of the trade, and did their very best for their

interests. In Plymouth they were in a unique position by reason of the remarkably good feeling which prevailed as the result of the existence of their little Association. (Applause.)

The members present then joined in heartily singing "For he's a jolly good fellow" in honour of Mr. Park, and the meeting closed.

Nottingham Chemists' Association.

MR. R. FITZHUGH, J.P., presided at the annual meeting of this Association, held at the Albert Hotel, Nottingham, on Wednesday night. There was a large attendance. The annual report regretted the fact that the classes held at the University College has not been so numerous attended as in former years, and a rather serious financial loss had resulted. The Council was, however, in communication with the authorities of University College regarding the rearrangement of the whole of the syllabus. The number on the Association roll had been more than maintained. There were now 54 members, 6 assistant members, and 18 student associates. The report was adopted.

The Chairman moved, and Mr. Sergeant seconded, a vote of thanks to Messrs. Newball & Mason for their donation of 5*l.* towards providing prizes in connection with the students' classes.

The Treasurer's report showed the balance in hand to be 11*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*; the total receipts, including this, 73*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* There was no opposition to the nominations of President (Mr. R. Fitzhugh), Vice-President (Mr. W. Gill), Hon. Treasurer (Mr. J. Wilford), and Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. Eberlin). The following were elected on the Council: Messrs. R. H. Beverley, F. R. Sergeant, C. A. Bolton, A. E. Beilby, E. Gascoyne, A. Middleton, T. Wilson, and J. S. Radford.

After returning thanks for his election, Mr. Gill proposed a vote of thanks to the Vice-President for his services during the year. Mr. Beverley replied.

The President thanked the Association for electing him as President. He said although the classes had not been as successful as usual he might say that it was the unanimous opinion of the Council that they should not attend the classes at University College if they were thrown open to the general trade. He deeply regretted that country chemists had not received from the Pharmaceutical Society the notice to which they were entitled, and which they were promised when they contributed to it so liberally. He saw no reason why they should continue their liberal support to the Society.

Other votes of thanks were also accorded and acknowledged. Mr. Eberlin (the Secretary) was particularly thanked for the excellent work he had done on behalf of the Association.

New Books.

Gould, G. M., Pyle, W. L., &c. *Cyclopædia of Practical Medicine and Surgery*. 8vo. 52*s.* 6*d.* (Philad., London.)

Harrison, E. *Home Nursing: Modern Scientific Methods for the Care of the Sick*. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 248. 4*s.* 6*d.* (Macmillan.)

Hillier, A. *Tuberculosis: its Nature, Prevention, and Treatment*. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 256. 7*s.* 6*d.* (Cassell.)

Hoff, J. H. van't. *Lectures on Theoretical and Physical Chemistry*. Trans. by Dr. R. A. Lehfeldt. Part 2: Chemical Statics. 9½ × 3½. Pp. 156. 8*s.* 6*d.* net. (E. Arnold.)

Jackson, B. D. *Glossary of Botanic Terms, with Derivation and Accent*. 8 × 5. Pp. 340. 6*s.* net. (Duckworth.)

Jorgensen, A. *Micro-organisms and Fermentation*. 3rd ed. 83 illus. 9½ × 5½. Pp. 334. 10*s.* net. (Macmillan.)

Larmor, J. *Æther and Matter: Development of Dynamical Relations of Æther to Material Systems on Basis of Atomic Constitution of Matter*. 9 × 5½. Pp. 394. 10*s.* net. (C. J. Clay.)

Müller, G. *Diseases of the Dog*. Trans. by A. Glass. 93 illus. 9½ × 5½. Pp. 420. 21*s.* (Baillière.)

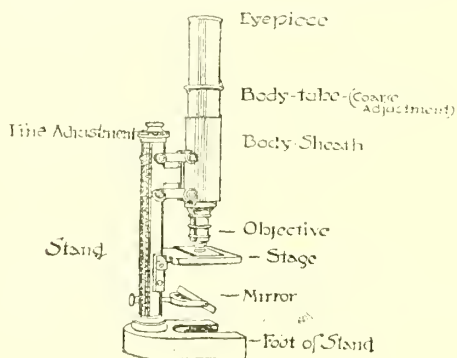
Park, J. *Cyanide-process of Gold-extraction*. 7½ × 5½. Pp. 136. 6*s.* (Griffin.)

Corner for Students.

PRACTICAL VEGETABLE HISTOLOGY.

II. THE MICROSCOPE AND ITS ACCESSORIES.

THE compound microscope consists of a stand, which usually has a joint to allow of the microscope being sloped, fixed to a heavy foot. The stand bears a *stage* for supporting the microscopic slide during examination, a *mirror* to illuminate the object, a long brass tube, called the *body-tube* (sliding within the *body-sheath*), in the upper end of which is placed the *eyepiece*, and to the lower end is fixed a combination of lenses called the *objective*. By means of the objective a magnified inverted virtual image is produced in the body-tube. Through the eyepiece one views the image



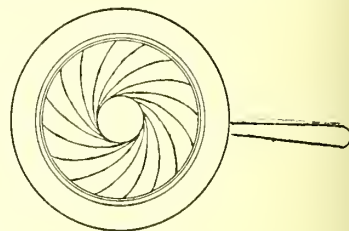
so produced. The eyepiece consists of two lenses fixed in a small sliding brass tube, which fits, as already said, into the upper end of the body-tube. The lower lens is called the *field-glass*, the upper one the *eye-glass*. The body-tube is supported on the stand in such a manner within the sheath that it can be moved vertically upwards and downwards, and thus bring the objective either away from or nearer to the object. This arrangement is called the *coarse adjustment*. In cheap microscopes it consists in sliding the body-tube with the hand in the way just mentioned; in more expensive microscopes the tube is raised or depressed by means of a rack-and-pinion movement. There is, in addition, a fine adjustment, consisting of a fine screw or milled head, placed at the upper part of the pillar of the stand of the microscope. By using it one can bring the object accurately into focus.

The stage is a horizontal plate of brass, blackened on the under-surface. Upon it the mounted object to be examined is placed. It usually carries two small clips, which serve to fix the slide in a definite position, and which are of special use in the examination of preparations with the microscope in a sloping position. The stage is perforated by a circular aperture at or near its centre, into which the diaphragm fits. There are three forms of diaphragm in common use—viz., the disc diaphragm, consisting of a blackened circular brass plate, with holes varying in size from a pinhole to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, which rotates under the stage, so that the desired size of aperture can be brought under the central aperture of the stage; the cylindrical diaphragm, consisting of a small brass cylinder, into which can be fitted small diaphragms perforated by apertures of varying size; and the iris diaphragm, in which, by turning a small milled head, any size of aperture can be obtained. A large aperture is used with low powers and a small aperture with high powers.

The mirror is usually movable in all directions and provided with a concave and a flat surface. Rays of light directed to the mirror are reflected from it through the aperture in the stage, the object on the stage, the body-tube of the microscope, and so to the observer's eye. When daylight is not obtainable, artificial illumination has to be resorted to. Any artificial light will do, provided it is a steady light. The style of paraffin-lamp here figured is very serviceable.

Every microscope should be supplied with two objectives—

the low-power, which should magnify about forty to seventy-five diameters, and the high-power, which should magnify from 300 to 450 diameters. Of German makers, Leitz numbers his objectives 1 to 9, 9 possessing the greatest magnifying-power, while Zeiss numbers his objectives A to F. British makers term their objectives 3-inch, 2-inch, $\frac{1}{6}$ -inch, &c.—a 1-inch objective possessing the same magnifying-power as a single lens of 1-inch focus. The two lenses usually chosen are either $\frac{2}{3}$ -inch and $\frac{1}{6}$ -inch, or 1-inch and $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch. Zeiss's A objective is equal to a British $\frac{2}{3}$ -inch objective, and his D to a $\frac{1}{6}$ -inch British lens.



IRIS DIAPHRAGM SHOWING A MEDIUM APERTURE.

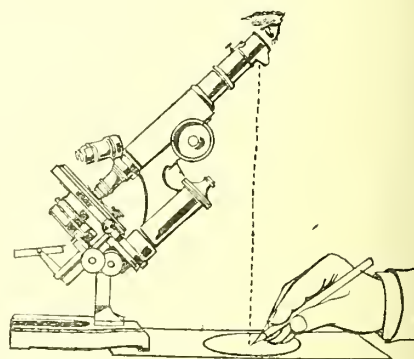
Two eyepieces are always required—one short (which is the stronger) and the other of medium length. An eyepiece does not magnify the preparation itself—it only magnifies the image of the preparation formed by the objective.

Many microscopes also possess a draw-tube which allows of the elongation of the body-tube, and thus increases the magnifying-power of the microscope.

For more advanced work one ought to use an Abbe's condenser. It collects the rays of light reflected from the mirror into a cone of rays, which are brought to a focus in the object, thus concentrating an enormous amount of light on it. Also an oil-immersion lens—say, $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch or $\frac{1}{10}$ -inch, which yields the highest magnifying-powers.

In selecting a microscope one must note the following points:—(1) It should be quite stable. (2) The stage should be at a convenient height, a little broader than the slide is long, and should carry two clips. (3) The pillar of the stand should be fitted with a joint to allow of an inclination of the microscope, when desired. (4) The microscope should possess a nose-piece or revolver to carry either two or three lenses. (5) The lenses must be perfect. If any spherical or chromatic aberration be present, the lens must be rejected. In testing a lens see that the definition of the object is sharp and not blurred; that there are no coloured fringes round the object; that all parts of the object in view are seen with equal clearness; that the structural details of the object are well brought out; that objects can be seen in several planes in the same preparation at the same time.

Having selected a microscope, the student must acquaint himself with the method of using it. The lenses and mirror



CAMERA LUCIDA.

must be first cleaned. The slide is placed on the stage in such a manner that the object is immediately above the aperture in the stage and directly below the objective. Light must then be reflected on the object by means of the mirror. The body-tube of the microscope is then moved either by the rack-and-pinion movement or by sliding it with

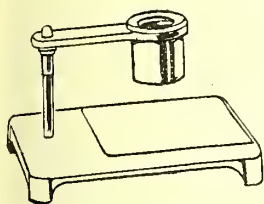
the hand—i.e., the coarse adjustment must first be made. The fine adjustment is then made by turning the small milled head situated at the top of the pillar of the stand. One should always examine the specimen with low power first and high power afterwards. Always remember that, in viewing an object through the microscope, it is not the object itself one is viewing—it is the image formed by the objective magnified by the eyepiece lenses.

When one examines preparations with a microscope for the first few times, many points of detail are unseen until they are brought to the notice of the student by the teacher. One method of overcoming this difficulty is by drawing sketches of the preparations viewed. Freehand sketching ought first to be adopted, and afterwards a *camera lucida* procured and the sketching done by its aid. The function of the *camera lucida* in essence is to throw an image on a sheet of paper, which image can then be traced. In this way one gets a better idea of the relative sizes of the different structures in the preparation.

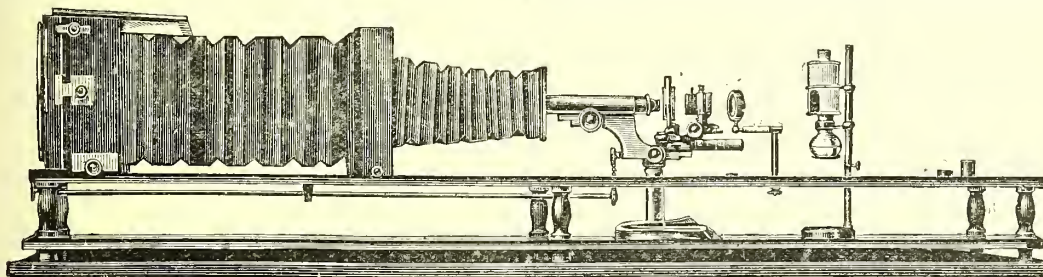
The magnifying-power of a microscope will vary with the objective used, with the eyepiece used, and with the length of the draw-tube. It will be increased, therefore, by using a higher-power objective, a higher-power eyepiece, or by pulling out the draw-tube.

The size of microscopic objects is measured by an instrument called a micrometer. The simplest form is the eyepiece micrometer, which consists of a circular flat piece of glass with a scale ruled on it, which is inserted in the eyepiece between the eyeglass and the field-glass. Jackson's eyepiece micrometer, with adjusting-screw, is a very serviceable instrument.

When one wishes to tease out any botanical preparation, a dissecting-microscope is of great assistance. Many forms of these are to be obtained.



SIMPLE DISSECTING MICROSCOPE.



ROSS'S MICROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS.

A. Lamp. B. Microscope. C. Camera. D. Dry plate.

Micro-photography.—In photographically reproducing sections of botanical tissues, care must be taken that only the thinnest and best specimens are chosen. An ordinary camera may be used for photographing, the lens being removed, and in place of it the upper end of the microscopic tube—which must be placed horizontally for this purpose—inserted, movably but light-tight. A special camera made with a body twice the usual length gives better results. It may be arranged either horizontally or vertically. Apochromatic lenses should be used. A sub-stage condenser is necessary for condensing the light for high powers, but it may be omitted while photographing with low powers. The best dry plates for microphotography are the isochromatic. For further particulars of microphotography the student must refer to some special text-book.

MR. ERNEST FLEMING, who has been manager for Messrs. Collins & Drayton, chemists, Herne Bay, was entertained to dinner by some friends there last week on the occasion of his leaving for Bournemouth, and was presented with a handsome diamond ring.

COLLEGE NOTES.

SHEFFIELD STUDENTS BOTANISE.—The students of the Sheffield College of Pharmacy had a most enjoyable outing on the Queen's birthday to Roche Abbey, belonging to the Earl of Scarborough. Quite a large variety of flowers were collected on Maltby Crags. After an excellent tea and stroll in the neighbourhood the journey home was begun, the party arriving at Sheffield about 8 P.M.

MR. F. PILKINGTON SARGEANT, of Leeds, is making special efforts to render botany a more pleasurable study. His school is in the centre of one of the richest botanical districts in the kingdom, and it is in the rare position of having most indigenous plants close at hand. The students at the school have excursions nearly every week, as a result of which the failures in botany have been almost *nil* so far. For the benefit of old students we may state that in future Mr. Sargeant will notify coming excursions of exceptional importance through the *C. & D.*, and one is announced this week.

WEST OF SCOTLAND COLLEGE.—On May 24 the students of this college, conducted by Mr. Thos. S. Barrie (co-principal), botanised along the banks of the Clyde from Cambuslang to Cammyle and Kenmuir. Favoured by splendid weather there was an exceptionally large turn-out of students, and in honour of the event the party were photographed. A large number of specimens were collected and studied, amongst them being the following:—*Caltha palustris*, *Ranunculus ficaria*, *R. acris*, *Barbarea vulgaris*, *Cardamine amara*, *C. pratense*, *Lychnis diurna*, *Stellaria Holostea*, *Pyrus Padus*, *Geum rivale*, *Cytisus Scoparius*, *Vicia sepium*, *Myrrhis odorata*, *Taraxacum officinale*, *Doronicum pardalianches*, *Petasites vulgaris*, *Lamium album*, *Mycosotis palustris*, *Symphytum officinale*, *Agraphis nutans*, and *Allium ursinum*.

STUDENTS AT EVANS'S.—On May 23 about fifty students of the Manchester College of Pharmacy, accompanied by the principal, Mr. Turner, and the demonstrator, Mr. Scott, visited the extensive warehouses and laboratories of Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co., at Liverpool. They were received by Mr. Wellings, who conducted the party through the various packing-rooms and warehouses; the extent of the premises and the processes of manufacture were a considerable surprise to the students. Amongst the special attractions in the warehouses was the export-room, where goods were being packed for Buenos Ayres and various other foreign

ports. The printing-department is quite a large concern in itself, and the specimens of printing in foreign languages for the export-trade were specially interesting. The special warehouse for the storage and clarification of Montserrat lime-juice was then inspected, and afterwards the laboratories, where Mr. Bird explained the processes of distillation, extract-making, and the manufacture of various other B.P. preparations. The party afterwards adjourned to a restaurant, where tea was provided by the firm. Mr. Turner briefly addressed the students, and hearty thanks were unanimously accorded to Messrs. Evans for their kindness. After tea the party took steamer to New Brighton, where a few hours were spent by the sea before returning to Manchester, which was reached about 10.15 P.M.

PUBLIC DISPENSERS' ASSOCIATION.—Mr. F. Noad Clark presided at the meeting held on Wednesday evening, May 30. The Secretary having had occasion to give a country dispenser information regarding salaries, said that he would be in a much better position for answering such inquiries if his fellow-members would keep him posted on changes, and other statistics which might be of common interest. Mr. R. E. Jones, of Poplar, read a paper on "Some Aspects of Pharmacy," and after some discussion various dispensing-problems were commented on.

Legal Reports.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

"AN INTERESTING AND ATTRACTIVE YOUNG LADY."

At the Sheriff Court, Linlithgow, on Friday, May 25, before Sheriff Macleod, Kate Robertson, assistant in the shop of Dr. Scott, Broxburn, was charged, at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, with having sold to Joseph Tait, Edinburgh, a quantity of laudanum, in contravention of the Sale of Poisons Act. Mr. P. Morison, jun., S.S.C., appeared on behalf of the Society. The defendant, who pleaded guilty, was not represented by a solicitor, but Dr. Scott was allowed to make a statement on her behalf.

Dr. Scott said he had taken over this business about eight months ago. Miss Robertson was an apprentice of his, and he also had in the shop an unqualified chemist. He and his medical assistant supervised the shop and were looking out and in now and then. It was not from economic principles that he had no qualified assistant in the shop, as he was paying wages quite sufficient to have obtained the services of a qualified chemist. But considering that he only took possession eight months ago, his Lordship would see that to have dismissed the assistants in the shop would have been misunderstood by the public and injured his position as a doctor in the town. He was helping his assistants to qualify. He allowed his unqualified chemist time to attend classes, and he expected that he would qualify in July next. It so happened that when this poison was got his unqualified chemist was out for his tea. Miss Robertson had instructions not to sell laudanum.

The Sheriff: Suppose that a prescription is brought into the shop, would Miss Robertson make it up?

Dr. Scott said he usually saw them made up.

The Sheriff: I am afraid from your own statement, Dr. Scott, that if the unqualified chemist had been in he would have sold the laudanum without hesitation, so that in any case it would have been an unlawful sale. I do not see that your only course was to do this or dismiss your unqualified assistants. You should have taken in a qualified man for a month or two.

Dr. Scott replied that the shop was only used for his club medical practice, and it was carried on at a financial loss.

Mr. Morison said the case had been brought into court in consequence of complaints made to the Registrar. He contended that Dr. Scott's explanation was really an aggravation of the offence, for he admitted that he could have engaged a qualified chemist for the wages he paid to unqualified assistants. The doctor knew the law quite well. It was far too common for doctors like Dr. Scott to keep open drug-shops and employ no qualified assistants whatever. The latest case of this kind was in Airdrie, where an unqualified assistant sold laudanum to a child, and the result was that the child's mother committed suicide. It was very unfortunate that they should have to bring a girl before his Lordship in this way, but the law provided that the actual seller was liable, and they had no means of getting at the doctor, who was the real offender. But in this case he surely would not leave the accused to pay any penalty his Lordship might inflict. He asked his Lordship to impose the penalty provided by the statute.

Sheriff Macleod said the last case before him was for the sale of a belladonna-plaster, but this case seemed to him to be a more serious one. Addressing accused, his Lordship said that when an interesting and attractive young lady like her was brought to the court on any charge, there was a disposition to allow her to go with an admonition, but there was an obvious reason against him taking that course on the present occasion. If it got abroad that she was allowed to go with an admonition, other chemists all over the country would engage attractive young ladies as their assistants with the result that the law would be of no avail. He must therefore inflict a penalty upon her just as if she were a man. The penalty would be 3*l.*, with 1*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* of expenses.

Accused said she could not pay the fine.

Sheriff Macleod asked Dr. Scott if he intended to pay the fine, and he replied "No."

The Sheriff asked if he should insert in the judgment any means of recovery in the event of the penalty not being paid.

Mr. Morison said that apparently Dr. Scott did not see his way to pay the penalty, and he had to ask his Lordship to insert the provision for recovery by pounding.

The Sheriff said he was at liberty by Section 8 of the Summary Jurisdiction Act, 1881, to insert a term of imprisonment in the event of non-payment.

Mr. Morison said there was a judgment in a similar case which ruled that no imprisonment could be inserted where the particular statute imposing the penalty provided the specific means.

The Sheriff said he was not clear on that point. The accused declared that she was unable to pay the penalty or expenses, and there was no reason to doubt that this was true. It seemed to him that that reduced the whole procedure to a farce, and the sooner the Act was amended and they got power to impose imprisonment in a case of non-payment the better.

High Court Case.

SEQUENCE TO POISONING IN A HOSPITAL.

ON Friday, May 25, Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Justice Bucknill gave their decision in the action brought under Lord Campbell's Act by the widow and child of a man named William Markey, who died at Tolworth Joint Hospital in October, 1898, from opium-poisoning, owing, it was alleged, to the negligence of a nurse, who gave an overdose. The plaintiffs now sought damages. The action was commenced more than six months after Markey's death, and the defendants (the Tolworth Joint Hospital District Board) did not deny the negligence, but claimed that the action was barred by the Public Authorities Protection Act, 1894, the first section of which requires that any action, prosecution, or proceeding should be commenced within six months after the act, neglect, or default complained of. Mr. Francis Watt (son of the late Mr. James Watt, of Haddington) was counsel for the plaintiffs; and he argued that the injury or damage done to the plaintiffs was such a continuance as is referred to in the Public Authorities Protection Act, so that the time of limitation prescribed by the Act had not yet begun to run. Mr. Justice Darling held that the words on which the learned counsel relied did not appear to apply to actions under Lord Campbell's Act at all. If counsel's contention were admitted, no action need be taken until the widow died, which was an absurd idea. With this Mr. Justice Bucknill concurred, and the case was dismissed.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

BAKING-POWDER.

At Bristol on May 23, Sarah Mann was fined 10*s.* and costs for selling baking-powder which contained 20 per cent. of alum.

MARY HETHERIDGE was fined 5*s.* and costs, at Wolverhampton, on May 25, for selling baking powder containing 44 per cent. of alum.

Two shopkeepers at Oxted were each fined 1*l.* and 8*s.* 6*d.* costs on May 22 for selling baking powder containing alum.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

At Abercarn on May 4, Price Brothers, grocers, Newbridge, were summoned for selling spirit of nitre which was only about half the proper strength. The inspector, cross-examined, said it was possible that the liquid might have deteriorated in consequence of a defective cork. He did not suggest intentional fraud. Mr. G. R. Thompson, county analyst, thought it was not possible for deterioration to have taken place as suggested, as the alcoholic strength of the liquid had not deteriorated. The Court ordered defendants to pay the costs.

MAGNESIA.

At Castle Eden on May 24, Thomas Ellis, Trimdon, was charged with having sold carbonate of magnesia for magnesia. Mr. B. Scott-Elder (the prosecuting-inspector) stated that he purchased six packets from defendant, each labelled "Pure magnesia." On being analysed they were found to be carbonate of magnesia, and to contain only 49 per cent.

of magnesia. He stated that some six months ago five wholesale chemists and druggists voluntarily came to his office and admitted their faults. They pleaded that to sell the carbonate for "magnesia" had been for years the custom of the trade, but they promised to rectify the matter in the future. The firm from which the packets in question had been purchased had sold these goods a considerable time before their representative came to his office. He asked the Magistrates, under the circumstances, to take a lenient view of the case and order the defendant to pay the costs. The Bench ordered defendant to pay the costs.

BORIC ACID IN MARGARINE.

At Liverpool, on Wednesday, May 30, William Boodle, grocer, was fined 20*l.* and 5*l.* 5*s.* costs for selling margarine adulterated with boric acid equal to 51 gr. per lb. Professor Boyce, Victoria University, said that the proportion of acid was large. A preservative was unnecessary, and he could only think that it was added to mask the rancidity of fat used in manufacture. Mr. Collingwood William, analyst, said there was no foundation for the suggestion that all margarine contained preservatives. Notice of appeal was given.

County Court Case.

THE DOG AND THE MEASURE-GLASS.

At the Swansea County Court, last week, Mr. J. T. Davies, chemist, Walter Road, sued Miss E. White, for 8*s.* 6*d.* in respect of damage done by defendant's dog breaking a glass measure in plaintiff's shop. The defence was that Miss White was under age, and could not be sued; but plaintiff's assistant pointed out that Miss White held the dog-licence, and, answering the Judge, defendant admitted that was so. His Honour (Judge Gwilym Williams) said he could plainly see it was an accident, and he thought that if Miss White paid the cost of the summons and the hearing fee that that would meet the case.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re FREDERICK NATUSCH MAUDE, Sunbury, lately trading as the "Gye Fresh Food Process."

THE statement of affairs in this case discloses gross liabilities 5,384*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, and net assets 600*l.* The debtor states that from March 24, 1899, until October he carried on business as a manufacturer of preserved food at Sunbury, under the name of the "Gye Fresh Food Process," his capital when he commenced being about 2,000*l.*, the estimated value of his share in his grandfather's estate, less the amounts of a mortgage and certain unsecured debts. He kept no books whatever, and attributes his insolvency to depreciation on realisation of estimated value of his share in his grandfather's estate at Leeds, loss owing to forced sale of furniture under an execution, bad debts, and personal expenditure during last year while he had no income.

At the adjourned public examination held at Croydon on Wednesday, May 30, the debtor repeated these statements in detail, and he stated that if the business had not collapsed he would have had large contracts from the War Office.

Re HARRY COGILL, trading as Harrington & Co., 54 London Road, Southend-on-Sea, Mineral-water Manufacturer.

The following are amongst the trade creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Anglo-Continental Chemical Company, London	34	1	6
British Syphon Company, London	51	13	1
Cox & Co. (Limited), London	34	15	0
Ellis, R., & Co., Southend	61	11	8
Hay, W. (Limited), Hull	61	18	7
Idris & Co. (Limited), London	15	15	1
Kilner, J., & Son, London	79	18	9
Manchester Chemical Company, London	10	2	0
Riley Manufacturing Company, London	184	9	11
Tyler, Hayward, & Co., London	20	4	0
United Alkali Company, Liverpool	21	16	8

Re JOSEPH CHAPELOW, 14 Claypath, Durham, trading as a druggist.

THE public examination of this debtor was held at the Durham Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday last, before Mr. Registrar Marshall. The summary of accounts filed by the debtor disclosed liabilities amounting to 877*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, of which 850*l.* was expected to rank against the estate for dividend. The assets were estimated to produce 238*l.* The debtor alleged his failure to have been caused through bad trade and competition with the co-operative stores. He commenced business in October 1892, without any capital of his own, and out of his liabilities, amounting to 850*l.*, upwards of 218*l.* was borrowed money. During the past three years his income had amounted to about 100*l.* per annum, and his expenditure to about 120*l.* per annum. He had 106 creditors in all, because he had to deal in so many special lines. He never experienced any difficulty in getting credit from any firm. His predecessor in the same shop, who was a qualified chemist, had also failed in business. The examination was adjourned.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Emmet, J. W., and Murdoch, A., physicians and surgeons, Bexhill-on-Sea, under the style of Emmet and Murdoch.

Hume, D., and Webb, W. S., medical practitioners and surgeons, Hambury Street, E., and White Lion Street, E., under the style of Hume and Webb.

Sharwood, J. A., and Watkins, G. H., manufacturers and importers of condiments, sauces, &c., Osley Works, Kennington, S.E., and St. George's House, Eastcheap, E.C., and elsewhere, under the style of J. A. Sharwood & Co.

Yeadon, J., Salisbury, W., and Dickinson, M. B., manufacturers of surgical appliances, Accrington, under the style of the Accrington Surgical Appliances Company, so far as regards W. Salisbury.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Angel, Harry, Heavitree and Exeter, mineral-water manufacturer.

Dutton, Thomas, Holland Park, W., doctor of medicine.

Parsons, Albert Edward, Dorchester, soda-water manufacturer.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

From the "Scottish Law Courts Record."

WINDING-UP OF PUBLIC COMPANY.

Woodside Chemical Company (Limited). Meeting at the office of the company, North Woodside Road, Glasgow, on June 21, at 11, for an account of the winding-up.

From the "Scottish Law Courts Record."

DIVIDEND PAYABLE UNDER TRUST DEED.

McClelland, William, 1188 Dumbarton Road, Glasgow, dispensing chemist. First and final, at John Wilson & Stirling's 151 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.A., forthwith.

New Companies & Company News.

OLIVER & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of druggists, chemists, dyers, oil and colour merchants, makers of electrical, photographic, chemical, surgical and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are:—O. O. Edmunds, 40 Rectory Road, Stoke Newington, druggist; Miss A. M. Silvester, Litchett House, Warwick Street, Leamington; Miss B. L. Edmunds, Rectory Lodge, Rectory Road, N.E.; Miss E. E. Edmunds, Rectory Lodge, Rectory Road, N.E.; Miss J. S. M. Edmunds, Rectory Lodge, Rectory Road, N.E.; J. S. M. Edmunds, Rectory Lodge, Rectory Road, N.E., student; and D. White, 4 Eastcombe Terrace, Blackheath, S.E., chemist. O. O. Edmunds is the managing director.

THAMES ALKALOID MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 30,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited), and to carry on the business of wholesale chemists and druggists, chemical manufacturers and merchants, &c. The first subscribers are:—W. Oppenheimer, Riversdale, Thames Ditton, gentleman; R. E. Eden, the Grange, Seal, Sevenoaks, gentleman; S. H. Luff, 89 Shrubland Grove, N.E., warehouseman; W. Allen, 1 Gascoine Place, Columbia Road, E., warehouseman; H. Sanderson, 10 Palatine Road, N.,

engineer; W. Bryant, 29 Clinton Road, E., chemist; and J. W. Rollings, 45 Acton Street, W.C., chemist. The first directors are:—W. Oppenheimer, the Hon. R. E. Eden and A. W. Ball. Qualification, 1,000 shares.

QUININE BITTERS MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).

—At the annual meeting of this company, held at Llanelly, on May 25, the annual report of the directors was read and adopted, and Mr. W. Iscoed Jones, the retiring director and Messrs. W. & B. Peat, the retiring auditors, were re-appointed.

VOLUNTARY WINDINGS-UP.—Denacyer's Peptonoids and Extract of Meat Company (Limited). Meeting, 29 Great St. Helen's, E.C., July 9, at 12, for an account of the winding-up.—Zomela Company (Limited). Resolved May 17: That the company be wound up. H. Lane, Church Street, Birmingham, auctioneer, liquidator.

BRUNNER, MOND & CO. (LIMITED).—The annual meeting of shareholders in this company was held at Liverpool on Wednesday, May 30, Sir John Brunner, Bart., M.P., presiding. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and referring to the patents account, said the directors were now to write off 2,500% yearly, instead of 1,000%, so as to wipe off the 25,000%. Their stock of material stood at 239,000%, against 214,000% last year. Referring to the new capital paid up, he said the total called up was 100,000%, upon which there was a premium of 70,000%, and there was to come in during the coming year 23,809%, and the reserve fund would stand at 656,000%. In regard to the purchase of the business of Bowman, Thompson & Co., he said it had been taken over as a going concern as from January 1 last. It would considerably fortify the immensely strong position which their company already held. Dr. Mond seconded, expressing his belief that the position of the company was stronger and its prospects brighter than ever before. The motion was carried, and the retiring directors re-elected.

SHARP BROTHERS SOAP AND PERFUMERY COMPANY (LIMITED).—The adjourned meeting of the creditors of this company was held at the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorgate Place, E.C., on Tuesday, May 29, at 2 o'clock, Mr. G. H. Carter, liquidator, presiding. Mr. John Lowles, the managing director of the company, reported that he had been unable to obtain the required guarantee for the payment of 10s. in the pound, but that he was in treaty with a possible purchaser of the business, and if this came off the purchase-money would be more than sufficient to pay the 10s. offered. Some dissatisfaction was expressed by the creditors, and the meeting broke up on the understanding that if the guarantee required was not forthcoming within fourteen days, the motion for an order for the compulsory winding-up of the company would be proceeded with. [Messrs. Cresswell Brothers & Schmitz inform us that they have had no connection with this company for some time. From the official return made on May 17, 1899, we learn that Messrs. J. H. Schmitz, sen., J. H. Schmitz, jun., T. S. Schmitz, F. H. Cresswell, E. J. J. Cresswell, and A. G. Cresswell, had each transferred his 290 shares during the year preceding. At that date the principal shareholders were Mr. John Lowles, M.P. for Haggerston, 580 shares; Mr. W. R. Anthony, 870 shares; Mrs. Agnes Lowles, 100, and Mr. Alfred Burnie, 100 shares.—EDITOR.]

STOWER & CO. (LIMITED).—A meeting of the creditors of this company, carrying on business as fruit-essence manufacturers at 38 Manesty Lane, Liverpool, was held on May 23 at the office of the Official Receiver in Victoria Street, Westminster. The Deputy Official Receiver said the total unsecured liabilities amounted to 3,400%, and the net assets available for dividend were estimated at 286%. The failure of the business was attributed to over-expenditure in advertising because the gross profits on the goods manufactured appeared to have averaged 50 per cent. The company was registered in 1898 with a capital of 10,000%. According to the articles of association Mr. Stower was to be managing director conditional on his holding 250 shares, but he did not appear at any time to have held more than a single share. Mr. Stower said he had no proposal to make to the creditors. The Deputy Official Receiver said he did not think there was any chance of reconstruction, although someone might

make an offer of purchase from the liquidator. He believed the rights which the company possessed for the sale of Stower's goods in the North of England might still be of considerable value; and Mr. Wilson, of Shipley, said he was prepared to make an offer to purchase if the name of the company could still be used. A creditor suggested that it might perhaps be best to take 2s. 6d. in the pound and be done with it, but it was pointed out that that offer was made in January, but the creditors would not accept it, nor would they accept an offer of 5s. in the pound. After further discussion a committee of inspection was appointed. At the meeting of contributories subsequently held the foregoing resolutions were confirmed, and it was stated that the total amount to be accounted for to the shareholders was 15,591%. Messrs. Alexander Riddle & Co., the proprietors of Stower's lime-juice cordial, state that they are in no way connected with the firm referred to.

W. J. BUSH & CO. (LIMITED).—The third annual general meeting of the shareholders was held at Winchester House on May 31. Baron de Bush, who presided, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said the amount available for distribution as dividend on the ordinary shares was not quite equal to that of previous years, owing to (1) increase in expenditure for the development of the home and foreign trade, (2) extra expenses arising from disturbance of business through the rebuilding of a portion of the factory, (3) reduction of prices due to competition. He said the sales were steadily increasing, and higher now than ever before. In the expenditure was included a research laboratory. As regards South Africa, the agency-expenses had continued without the advantages of business accruing therefrom, and in 1899 the company were deprived of the profit which had hitherto existed on their American business. A circular had been issued to the shareholders during the past year informing them of the decision of the directors to create a separate company for America. The British company was allotted shares entitling it to a large proportion of the profits. The sales of the American company were largely in excess of those of any previous year's trading. After protracted negotiations the directors had succeeded in obtaining a plot of land at the rear of the works at Ash Grove, which will permit a scheme to be carried through to remove the warehouses from Artillery Lane to Ash Grove, Hackney. This should considerably economise working expenses. In concluding, Baron de Bush expressed his appreciation of the work of the staff. The gross profit for the year has been 64,519% 18s. 8d., and net profit 14,759% 12s. 2d., which together with the amount brought forward from last year, amounts to 15,013% 5s. 0d. After deducting the dividends paid on the preference shares on April 1 and October 1, and also allowing for that which has accrued from the latter date to the end of the year, and the interim dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. on the ordinary shares paid on November 28, there was a balance of 3,763% 5s. 3d. The directors therefore recommended the addition of 2,000% to the reserve-fund, and the payment of a dividend at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares for the half year, making 5 per cent. for the year, carrying forward 513% 5s. 3d. With regard to the Société Anglo-Française des Parfums Perfectionnés (Limited), it had been thought desirable to call upon the guarantors to take a transfer of the original holding of 12,450% ordinary shares and 500% debentures at par. In answer to a shareholder the chairman said the reserve-fund was invested in the (business freehold property)—Mr. Woodhouse: I should be glad to know why it is that the outstanding debts are so large—73,535% 5s. 7d., in fact more than the total profits of the company?—The Chairman: It is necessary that they should be large, as sales are only effected by giving long credit, but the credit is given to persons of stability.—The report was seconded by Sir George Hayter Chubb, and carried unanimously.

LYDDITE EXPLOSION.—An explosion of lyddite, causing great damage, occurred on Wednesday evening at the works of Messrs. Read, Holliday & Co., manufacturing chemists, Huddersfield, who are engaged on a Government contract. The lyddite was being dried by steam, and it is said that 250 kegs of lyddite, each weighing 2 cwt., had been removed from the building only two hours before the explosion occurred. [This is the daily paper report. We should think an acetylene-explosion was more likely.—EDITOR.]

Marriage.

JOHNSTON—RUDDELL.—On May 1, at Balmoral Methodist church, by the Rev. William Gorman, assisted by the Rev. F. E. Harte, James Johnston, M.P.S.I., Belfast, to Mary, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Ruddell, Portadown.

Deaths.

CLAUS.—On May 4 there passed away in the person of Adolf Claus, one whose influence on the theory and teaching of chemistry will not soon be forgotten. Professor Claus was born in Cassel in 1838, and studied under Kolbe, in Marburg, and Wöhler, in Göttingen. He acted as assistant to Babo, at Freiburg, where he was appointed a privat-docent in 1833. In 1867 he became extraordinary, and in 1875 ordinary, professor of chemistry and technology at this University. Perhaps the most striking of Claus's theoretical conceptions were the lucid suggestions he made when developing his benzene theory. Recognising that the formula of Kekule did not account for several established facts, he propounded the theory of a so-called diagonal linkage, which has had a wonderful influence on modern chemistry. This formula for benzene is almost identical with that of Armstrong and Baeyer, who took Claus's theory a step farther, and assumed "a mutual attraction in the centre of the ring," instead of an actual diagonal linkage. Amongst the contributions of Claus to chemical literature are papers on "Loretin," "The Constitution of Naphthalene," "The Theory of Oximes," "Stereoisomerism," "The Chemistry of Quinine," "Quaternary Ammonium Bases," and "Isoquinoline Derivatives," besides many others.

HAYCROFT.—On May 10, at Florence, Mr. John Haycroft, chemist and druggist. Aged 55. The late Mr. Haycroft was for thirty years with Messrs. H. Roberts & Co., of Florence.

MORRIS.—At London, on May 20, Mr. Richard Morris, J.P., of Beechfield, Doncaster, who was head of the firms of Morris & Co., Morris Brothers, and Morris, Little & Sons, chemical manufacturers, of West Stockwith. Aged 66.

REMMERS.—From Singapore the death is announced of Mr. Richard Remmers, who at one time was in charge of Messrs. Volkart Brothers' business in Colombo. A few years ago he severed his connection with that firm, and joined Messrs. Pertile & Co., Singapore, ultimately becoming a partner.

WHITTON.—At Dundee, on May 21, Mr. Andrew Crichton Whitton, chemist and druggist. Aged 30. Mr. Whitton, who was well known to his *confrères* in Dundee by reason of his cheery and buoyant temperament, developed a throat trouble about six years ago, and having been ordered to a warmer climate he obtained a situation in Pietermaritzburg, where his health was re-established. Unfortunately, soon after the war broke out he was stricken with enteric fever, his throat trouble returned, and he became seriously ill. He managed to reach home about the end of April, but was so dangerously ill that no hope was entertained of his recovery.

WILSON.—At 48 King's Road, Southsea, on May 28, Mr. John Sheppard Wilson, chemist and druggist. Aged 72 years. Mr. Wilson had been in business at Southsea for forty years, being the whole of that time in King's Road, and for some years he had a branch-establishment in Somers Road. He was highly respected.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," May 16, 1900.)

"**PEPSONAL**" (no claim for "Pepsin"); for chemical substances. By L. T. Ashwell, "Hazelwood," Warlingham, Surrey. 228,810.

"**BURKHART'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND**," portrait of applicant, and wording (essential particular is 'the portrait'); for a medicine. By W. S. Burkhart, 82 Clerkenwell Road, E.C. 228,308.

"**RANEE**"; for chemical substances. By F. W. Berk & Co. (Limited), 1 Fenchurch Avenue, E.C. 229,574.

"**PYRAMID BRAND**," and device of pyramid and circles; for pills. By the Red, White, and Blue Pill-trading Company (Limited), 91 Bolsover Street, W. 228,740.

"**SAL ALVIE**" (no claim for "Sal"); for mineral-water powder. By F. C. Ireland, 88 Charing Cross Road, W.C. 229,514.

"**ASIBROOKE'S MINERAL WATERS**," and signature; for mineral waters. By G. H. Brewer, 2 Grimshaw Street, Bootle. 226,091.

"**QUENCHLETS**" (no claim for "Quench"); for mineral and aerated waters. By R. White & Sons (Limited), 143 Neate Street, Camberwell, S.E. 229,720.

"**SLAKELETS**" (no claim for "Slake"); for mineral and aerated waters. By the London Essence Company, 103 George Street, Camberwell, S.E. 229,721.

Circular device, with name and initials of firm; for mineral and aerated waters. By Jewsbury & Brown, Ardwick Green, Manchester. 229,918.

"**ERASMIC**," and floral design; for toilet soap. By the Erasmie Company (Limited), Bank Quay, Warrington. 226,449.

"**JOHANN MARIA FARINA**," and address on label; for eau de Cologne. By Johann Maria Farina, Gegenüber dem Gereons platz, Roonstrasse 40, Cologne. 228,588.

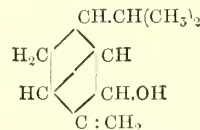
"**ASTRID**"; for perfumed soap, face-powder, tooth-powder, hair-wash. By Astrid M. Benson, 29 De Vere Gardens, London. 230,051.

Scientific Progress.

Chemistry of Japan Wax.—Geitel and Van der Want have made a careful examination of this wax (*Jour. prak. Chem.*, 1900, 151, through *C. S. Jour.*), and state that it contains about 96 per cent. of fatty acids, of which about 5 per cent. are soluble in a large volume of water. The soluble acids consist mainly of suberic acid, whilst the insoluble acids were found to contain a new dibasic acid, of the formula $C_{20}H_{38}(COOH)_2$, which the authors term jpanic acid. This body exists, combined with palmitic acid, in the form of a glyceride. It is a saturated acid, melting at 118° .

A New Element (?) Austrium.—In 1836 Linnemann (*Monatshefte* vii., 121) claimed that he had detected in the mineral orthite a new metal characterised by two violet rays in its spectrum, of wave-length 4105 and 4030 respectively. Boisbaudran, in the same year, urged that this was nothing else than the well-recognised metal gallium, whose characteristic violet rays possessed the wave-lengths 4017.5 and 4032, numbers practically identical with those quoted above. Pribram has now re-examined a portion of the same sample which Linnemann worked with, and after eliminating every element except gallium and something else, as yet uncharacterised, claims that there is an unknown element present, which, however, does not yield the lines found by Linnemann, and which were certainly due to gallium, but which gives no fewer than twenty-four hitherto unknown lines. He proposes to retain the name austrium for it, and is now endeavouring to isolate it in a pure condition.

Oil of Savin.—Fromm, who quite recently characterised and named the alcoholic constituent of oil of savin (sabinol), contributes a paper on the subject to the current issue of the *Berichte* (xxxi., 1191). The paper deals with the constitution of the alcohol of the oil very fully, but the whole paper, which is of some interest, may be summarised as follows. By fractional distillation a terpene boiling at 158° was isolated, but this could not be identified with any hitherto known terpene. The results of a careful study of the oxidation-products of sabinol, the alcohol above referred to, lead Fromm to consider the constitution of this body to be—



The paper concludes with a study of the acids of this oil, which, of course, are present in the form of esters. Schimmels have identified acetic acid as the principal of these. This result is confirmed, and, in addition, traces of a fluid acid boiling at 255° , and of a solid acid boiling at 260° , were detected. The former appears to possess the formula $C_{20}H_{38}O_5$, and the latter $C_{14}H_{16}O_8$. It may, in passing, be remarked that the oil upon which these results were obtained was absolutely authentic, being guaranteed personally by Schimmel & Co. This requires emphasis, as so many discordant results are due to adulteration of the oil used,



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Mr. Reid on the "Grocer" and Shorter Hours.

SIR,—In a short editorial the *Grocer* deals with my last letter regarding grocers and chemists. After bringing a blush of modesty to my face by speaking of me as a valourous chemist, the writer rather discounts that compliment by suggesting that I am a Bedlamite. I do not know that valour and lunacy are compatible qualities. He has quoted extensively from my last letter, but he has been careful to select suitable passages and ignore unsuitable ones. The result is that he has brought charges against me which are unfounded. He says, for instance, that I am arguing in favour of long hours and short prices. I never said a word about hours, but this places in my way an opportunity of doing so now. It is well known in this district that my sympathies are all with short hours. I consider that chemists have done a great deal in the past to ruin their own status and reputation by keeping open so late at night. They keep open long after all large business-places are closed, with the result that the community looks on them as "pottering creatures," and sits on them accordingly. The quickest way to ruin a business is to keep open late at night. In most places, if the chemists would combine, they could shut at 7 P.M. in the summer and 8 P.M. in the winter on all ordinary business days, and by doing so they would secure the respect of the community, some pleasure in life, a modicum of good health, and lose nothing in pocket. A statement like this will take the breath away from some of our friends who keep open every night up to 11 P.M., and they will no doubt say to themselves, "Can these things be?" I affirm that they can be; that this is what we ought to aim at in the interests of health and of our calling; that it is what we are drifting towards; and that so happy a state of matters is delayed only by the men who will not combine and act heartily in unison with their fellows. It is significant that the *Grocer* thinks keener competition with grocers by chemists would lead to longer hours amongst grocers. It cannot be chemists it refers to, as they keep open far too late already. I hope chemists will think over the *Grocer's* remark. Evidently it thinks that so long as grocers keep chemists' articles, and force chemists to keep open late, there is no harm done, but if chemists retaliate by keeping grocers' articles and so force grocers to keep open late, matters will, in his opinion, be very serious. It talks later on about compromise over prices: Had we not better also compromise regarding closing-hours? Let us keep as many of the grocer's articles as we can, and in place of forcing them to keep open as late as we do, let us shut as early as they do. The whole position of grocers has been selfish in regard to us, and suicidal in regard to themselves. They have upon their price-lists every non-poisonous article in the British Pharmacopœia, to say nothing of patent medicines, and they have been selling these for a long time at less profit than ordinary grocery goods are sold at. Their action in doing so is traceable to nothing but a spirit of pure selfishness and mischief. They do not help themselves by taking this line. One grocer advertises that he will pay railway carriage on all parcels over 5s. It is plain, therefore, that he must have better profits on ordinary grocery goods than grocers take on our goods. At the same time, grocers close their places at 7 P.M. promptly, and leave chemists to ruin their constitutions by keeping open up to 11 P.M., on the off-chance of being able to sell a few things which people have forgotten to purchase at the grocer's during proper business hours.

The *Grocer* refers to our status. Oh, yes; they will allow us status so long as they can pocket the cash, but we never got our status by their clemency, and we cannot lose it through competition with them. Our status is built on our

education, and education cannot be taken away. The *Grocer* is careful not to publish my remarks on the preservation of status. I say nothing about some remarks regarding compromise over prices. I have no doubt Mr. Glyn-Jones has seen them, and as they are exactly in his line I leave that matter in his hands.

Dumfries, May 30.

JAMES REID.

A Degree for Pharmacists.

SIR,—I was pleased to read Dr. McWalter's and Mr. Ray's letters on this subject in your recent issues. In January, 1890, I read a paper before the Chemists' Assistants' Association of London upon "The Advisability of a University Degree for Pharmacists," and although it called forth a leading article in the *Daily News*, nothing in the matter seems to have been done; perhaps I was ten years too previous, or perchance history is simply repeating itself, and the present agitation will be consigned to the limbo of abortive attempts. If a degree in pharmacy is to be granted it must supplement the present qualifying examinations, whether British or Irish, must not be restricted to pharmaceutical chemists only, and no attendance or curriculum at the University should be enforced, because few could spare the time or bear the expense. The degree should be conferred on the results of examinations only, which might be as severe and searching as those of any other faculty. I would suggest that the degree might be taken in one of the following branches—namely: (1) Pharmacy and materia medica; (2) chemistry, as applied to pharmacy; (3) chemistry, as applied to public health, including bacteriology; (4) original research.

Faithfully yours,

Imperial College of Pharmacy, FREDERICK DAVIS.
Ludgate Circus, E.C.

Chemists' Travellers.

SIR,—I think a very useful lesson can be learnt from your note on the anonymous correspondent in the *B. M. J.* Firms should be careful whom they engage to do this important work. Speaking from a traveller's point of view, I believe men of repute, unless fallen very low, are careful whom they become associated with. No doubt both the doctor and the chemist have a grievance, but, whether professional or business men, we cannot afford to be impatient. The American is credited with ability for business, and he is the best getatable man. Even Sir Wm. Broadbent is not so bad as might be gathered from Mr. Cooper's remarks at the meeting of the Western Chemists' Association. I have had the pleasure of interviewing Sir William. I found him an attentive listener and a thorough gentleman, I should say not confined to one line of thought.

A doctor once told me of an up-to-date traveller who called upon a friend of his in the suburbs. The doctor, who was having a quiet half-hour in his garden, sent a polite message that he could not see the gentleman. The drummer still drummed on, and sent word back he had something of importance to say. The reply came again that he could not be seen. Said he, "Tell the doctor I have a ticket and a free fare to a garden-party." The servant came back to say that the gardener was on his way round with the hose. It is needless to say the up-to-date was soon missing. After all, it is for firms who value their business to see that it is worked so as not to offend either doctor or chemist.

Yours respectfully,

HENRY A. RILES.

Sharp Brothers' Soap and Perfumery Company (Limited).

SIR,—With reference to the meeting of creditors reported in your last issue on behalf of Messrs. C. J. J. and A. G. Cresswell and T. C. Schmitz, may I point out that the statements therein are not quite accurate and are liable to do my clients harm? The true facts are: This old business was purchased by them in conjunction with other persons in 1895, the company being formed with a capital of 14,000l., afterwards increased to 17,500l., in 10l. shares, every share being fully paid in cash. Mr. Bernheim, one of the shareholders, sold his interest to the others and retired from the directorate in 1897. The business was carried on until April last year, when, after full inquiry and satisfying himself the company was solvent, Mr. John Lowles, M.P., purchased all the shares, which were duly transferred to him and his

nominees, from which time my clients have had no shares in the company, the new shareholders and directors from that time of course being alone responsible for the management of the concern and its present unfortunate position. My clients think it right their position should be clearly known to your numerous readers, very many of whom are their firm's customers.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Holborn Town Hall, W.C., MATTHEW H. HALE.

May 28.

[The additional facts, as far as reported to Somerset House, are noted under Company News.—EDITOR.]

The Art of Composition.

SIR,—It is not always advisable to take the public press for a guide, as the following extract from the *Port of Spain Gazette* will show:—

A COMPLAINT

Has been made to us by some residents in Purcell Street, Sanferando that not a hydrant has been laid down in their street, although the matter was represented. Our representative *says she* proposes visiting the spot and finding out for *himself* whether there is cause for complaint, before offering *our* views on the subject.

Yours truly,
A. R. A. (71/28.)

The Research Laboratory.

SIR,—It is a rather remarkable, and at the same time instructive circumstance, that the originator of this expensive and inoperative scheme for the sequestration of subscribers' guineas should have come forward, as he did at the annual meeting, with so futile a defence of the work done in that same Research Laboratory.

It may still be remembered by certain old members that a rumour was afloat of complicity with vivisectionists. This rumour eventually shaped itself into an allegation, instead of rebutting which, however, "the man of the hour" waxed exceeding wroth, and thundered forth an anathema on those devoted twelve, denouncing them as "traitors" for daring to hold humane sentiments; but, as in the charming episode of the "Jackdaw of Rheims," "none seemed any wuss for the cussin'." The medicos, however, beat a retreat from the Research Laboratory, P.S.G.B., and with characteristic modesty started a research laboratory of their own, wherein they could pursue their noble researches "for the benefit of humanity," despite the remonstrances of Miss Power Cobb and Mr. Adams, the Princess of Wales and the National Anti-vivisection Society.

It is to be hoped that, although the motion for investigation was withdrawn, one or more of the new and weak members of the Council will not lose sight of the subject.

INQUIRENDO. (208/46.)

Income-tax Overcharges.

The Income-tax Adjustment Agency (Limited), of 12 and 13 Poultry, E.C., desires to remind our subscribers that owing to the South African War the British Taxpayer will not for some time probably obtain any relief in regard to the rate of the income-tax, which now stands at no less than 5 per cent. of the assessed income. It is therefore necessary to bear in mind that while the rate of the tax may remain the same it is possible in very many cases to obtain relief by way of abatements that have not already been allowed. In the matter of overcharges under Schedule D the small trader often fails to obtain relief through his inability to furnish accounts satisfactory to the Inland Revenue Authorities, consequent on the fact that he has kept no complete record of his business transactions. The agency will be pleased to advise readers gratuitously whether they are entitled to any repayment in respect of tax deducted from rents, interest, dividends, annuities, &c., whether paid "free of income-tax" or not, and also in respect of Life Assurance Premiums, on their sending full particulars of their incomes from all sources, and a stamped directed envelope for reply.

Needhams v. Dale.

Mr. Thos. Dale, the defendant in this action (*C. & D.*, May 26, page 896), wishes it to be made clear that Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy merely granted an interim injunction pending the hearing of the action. Mr. Dale also denies that he left the country (as stated by plaintiffs' counsel). He

was only absent from Huddersfield about three weeks. He also denies that he signed any agreement with Needhams (Limited)—which is neither alleged nor reported. The point is, is the agreement made before incorporation still binding?

Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

93/30. *T. F.*—You will find all information in regard to the registration of trade-marks in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 226. The first step that you have to take is to get from any money-order office a form of application, which costs you 5s. for each mark.

94/14. *J. W. D.*—You do not say whether "Nemo" sells by retail or wholesale. Although he is unqualified he may manufacture and sell wholesale veterinary medicines containing poisons, but he may not sell them by retail either from a distributing-van, open shop, or in another retail manner. If "Blank," a registered chemist and druggist, enters into partnership with him, and both engage in the retail business, the Pharmaceutical Society could, and most likely would, proceed against "Nemo," if they knew it. "Nemo's" best course is to confine himself to the wholesale, using his own name in connection with the articles, and get "Blank" to act as the retail distributor.

93/50. *Sample.*—Payment of unordered samples cannot be enforced if the receiver proves that he did not use them, or that he informed the senders that they remained in his possession at their risk. The fact that the samples were cigars of poor quality does not alter the matter unless you have smoked them, in which case you had better pay up.

61/26. *Morphia.*—Actions under the Pharmacy Act, 1858, in Scotland can only be taken by the procurators fiscal, or under their authority. The Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society always obtains such authority.

61/54. *T. A.*—You will find full particulars in regard to obtaining wine-licences in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 221, and you will observe from that that three weeks' notice is required. Communicate in the first instance with the superintendent of police of your district.

77/31. *G. S.*—The use by you of the title "Pink Pills" in association with the name of an American physician and a container similar to that of Williams's Pink Pills might be regarded by the manufacturers of the latter as a colourable imitation, and they would have ground of action against you. If they proceeded, you might have difficulty in persuading the Judge that you are not trading upon the reputation created by the other party.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

80/26. *Rhei.*—(1) Aq. chloroformi is a preparation of chloroform, which can only be sold by registered persons. (2) Infants' Soothing-syrup:—

Ol. anisi	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Ol. foeniculi	...	...	...	...	℥v.
Ammon. bromid.	...	...	...	...	gr. xxx.
Alcohol.	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Aq. destillat.	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Syrup. ad	...	...	...	...	3xvj.

Mix the oils and the spirit, add the syrup and water, and let stand all night. In the morning filter bright through kaolin.

Dose: 3ss. to 3j. in a tablespoonful of warm water given in sips.

(3) A boric-acid lotion is the best treatment for simple catarrh of the eyes.

70/28. *J. J. J.*—Botanical Books for beginner.—Bower's "Practical Botany," 3s. (Macmillan), or Wishart's "Botanist's Vade-Mecum," 2s. (Livingstone), are suitable.

77/4. *II. J.*—Health-salt.—The following is an improvement on your formula:—

Sodii bicarb. ...	...	...	...	3ij.
P. ac. tart. ...	...	...	...	3iss.
P. pot. acid. tart. ...	...	...	...	3iss.
P. sodii sulph. exsicc. ...	...	...	...	3j.
P. sacch. alb....	...	...	...	3vj.

If the powder is lightly granulated, it occupies more space, and is better for filling tins or bottles.

79/19. *Query.*—Outdoor assistants in London (qualified) get from 45s. per week upwards, according to the district.

78/6. *A. C.*—Apart from practical testing of the sheep-dipping fluids estimation of the amount of phenols in each is the only satisfactory plan.

75/60. *Castrating.*—Castrating-ointment.—See *C. & D.*, November 20, 1897, page 811.

83/52. *Manufacturer.*—Non-alcoholic Ale.—The recipes given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" (page 240), and the information contained in Pocock's "Brewing of Non-excisable Beers" (Bush & Co., 2s. 6d.), are what you require for concocting hop-ale on the large scale.

87/59. *Bobs.*—Orange-bitters:—

Orange-peel ...	...	...	...	3j.
Preserved citron-peel ...	...	...	...	3ss.
Gentian ...	...	...	...	3ss.
Cascarilla ...	...	...	...	3ss.
Rectified spirit ...	...	...	...	3v.
Water ...	...	...	...	3xv.

Macerate for a week, and filter.

You are probably aware that to make and sell spirit-bitters a compounder's licence is required, particulars of which can be had from the local Excise officers.

89/6. *Iodum.*—Removing Tattoo-marks.—Refer to *C. & D.*, April 8, 1899, page 575, or February 23, 1899, page 375.

85/28. *Furo.*—Oleum Uinaris is vulgarly known as elbow-grease, and is a necessary vehicle for all embrocations, especially those for veterinary use.

84/37. *B. J. L.*—You do not give sufficient particulars to enable us to answer your inquiry.

84/59. *E. B.*—Sticky Fly-papers.—See *C. & D.*, June 17, 1899, page 974, for the composition required for these.

84/68. *Dark-slide.*—(1) Metol-quinol Developer.—See THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1900, page 237. (2) Ammonium sulphocyanide has been stated by the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society not to be a poison under the poison schedule of the Pharmacy Act.

74/15. *II. N.*—The crystals which form in the gelatin, potassium bromide, and spirit solution are doubtless potassium sulphate, which is but slightly soluble in water.

84/19. *Euclid.*—The objection to "well-rubbing tr. cantharidis into the head with a sponge" is that the skin of the head will be badly blistered and poisoning by absorption might follow.

86/20. *Niger.*—Ung. conii, B.P. is a light-brown ointment, certainly not "black as ink," as your medical man expected it to be.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

- 95/13. Address of maker of Spencer's stereoscopic views.
94/49. Name and address of makers of punches and dies for tablet-compressing machines.

Dividing the Purchase.

IN the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice on Thursday, May 31, the case of *Mason v. Couldray* was heard before Justices Darling and Bucknill.

Mr. Bonsey said that he appeared on behalf of the Luton Local Authority, who sought to reverse the decision given by the Magistrates at Luton in this case. The facts were as follows:—Inspector Mason purchased from Mrs. Couldray six twopenny bottles of camphorated oil, for the purpose of analysis under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. The sample of oil examined was found to be deficient in camphor to the extent of 3 per cent. The inspector had three brown paper bags, in each of which he placed two of the bottles he had purchased, and sealed each bag. He left one bag containing two bottles with the defendant, and sent another to the public analyst, retaining the third bag as the reserve sample. Each bottle was separately labelled. The bottles were not put up by Mrs. Couldray, but were purchased by her from a chemist. There was no evidence that the bottles were procured by her from the same chemist. The Magistrates had dismissed the summons on the ground that the sample had not been properly divided. In their opinion the transaction should have been regarded as one purchase of six bottles of oil, in which case the contents of the bottles should have been mixed, then divided, or it was six different purchases of separate twopenny bottles, in which case the contents of each bottle should have been divided. Counsel further stated that the point was of considerable importance, and affected a number of articles. He asked the Court to say that the inspector had done all that he reasonably could be expected to do. If, as was suggested, he had mixed the contents of the bottles, and then divided them, it might happen in dealing with certain articles that loss by evaporation in the process would ensue. If, on the other hand, he had divided the contents of each bottle, there would not have been in this case a sufficient quantity for analysis. It had been held that a penny roll was not a sufficient quantity of bread to analyse for purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and if he had therefore bought a number of penny rolls, was it contended that he should have divided each of them, or that he should have massed the rolls and then divided them. Then there was the case of *Seidlitz-powders*.

Mr. Justice Bucknill: What?

Mr. Bonsey: *Seidlitz-powders*, my Lord. [Mr. Bonsey pronounced "seidlitz" in the German way.] They were usually put up in packets of one dozen, and the usual practice was to divide the sample into three lots of four powders each. It would be of no use to bulk them because it was often a question of weight of each ingredient.

Mr. Muir, who appeared on behalf of the Chemists' Defence Association in support of the Magistrates' decision, was informed by the Court that it was not necessary to hear him, and

Mr. Justice Darling said this case arose upon the 14th section of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, and dealt with what was to be done by a person purchasing for analysis. The section said a person purchasing any article with the intention of submitting the same to analysis should, after the purchase had been completed, forthwith notify the seller or his agent of his intention to have the article analysed, and divide it into three parts, to be there and then separated, &c. The inspector in this case went to the respondent and purchased six twopenny bottles of camphorated oil. If he had bought one twopenny bottle he would have bought an article. It did not matter whether it was a small article. If he had bought a magnum he would have bought an article. If he bought six magnums he would have bought six articles, and if he bought six twopenny bottles he would have bought six articles. When he had bought an article he was to divide it into three parts. This man bought six articles, and did not divide any of them into three parts, but divided the six of them into three parts. As he did not divide either of the bottles, he did not divide any of the articles he bought in the manner prescribed by the statute. Judgment must therefore be for the respondent.

Mr. Justice Bucknill concurred, and the appeal was accordingly dismissed, with costs.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: May 31.

WITH the exception of a little activity in one or two crude drugs, business in Mincing Lane is exceptionally quiet for the time of the year, and next week it will be equally so. There has been a little excitement in jalap owing to heavy buying in the United States, and values have risen here in consequence. Sumatra benzoin is also in fair inquiry for medium grades. German refined camphor has been advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., owing to higher prices having been paid to the monopoly for crude. It is not expected that English refiners will follow this advance. Oil of lemon keeps rising, and lower prices are not looked for this year. In heavy chemicals the chief alteration has been a reduction of 1s. per cwt. in sal ammoniac. Quinine is quiet and lower in second-hands, but on Thursday it recovered slightly. No spice-sales were held this week owing to Derby day, and none are to be held next week. The following are the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Camphor (Germ.)	Acid, citric Opium	Pot. bichrom.	Cinnamon Linsseed and oil
Jalap			Oil, palm
Oil, lemon			Sal ammoniac

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from May 24 to 30, both inclusive:—Aloes (E.I.), 20; almonds, 266; ambergris, 1; annatto-seed, 11; arnica, 2; asafetida, 5; buchu, 29; cannabiss indica, 25; caraway-seed, 50; cardamoms, 90; cassia fistula, 27; chamomiles, 9; cinchona (E.I.) 160, (Java) 16; castor oil (Ital.) 37, (E.I.) 150; cinchona (Ceylon), 230; cocculus indicus, 68; cochineal, 75; cocoa-butter, 50; cod-liver oil, 150; coriander-seed, 1,003; croton-seed, 2; cuttlefish, 30; dragon's-blood, 3; eucalyptus oil, 12; fenel-seed, 15; galls (Prsn.), 547; gentian, 35; gum arabic 270, (from Bombay) 303; gum sandarac, 80; honey (Ital.) 24, (Jam.) 6, (Calif.) 88, (Chil.) 455; jalap, 43; juniper berries, 20; kola-nuts (W.C.A.), 2; lime-juice (W.I.), 67; lime oil, 5; liquorice-root, 60; nux vomica (Bombay) 1,392 bags, (Calcutta) 200 pockets; oil, peppermint (Jap.), 20; olibanum, 1,012; opium, 47; orris (Ital.), 6; quicksilver, 100; scammony root, 52; senna (Alex.) 40, (Tiuy.) 210; senna-pods, 8; soy, 110; tamarinds (W.I.), 71; turmeric (Bombay), 223; vanilla, 1; wax, bees' (E.I.) 84, (Ital.) 20, (Span.) 20, (Aust.) 27; wax, Carnauba (from Pernambuco), 791.

The Alkali Amalgamation.

In further reference to the amalgamation of Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co. (Limited), and Messrs. Bowman, Thompson & Co. (Limited), the chairman of the latter company stated at the extraordinary general meeting on May 22 that a tripartite agreement had existed between the company, Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co. and the United Alkali Company, and during the past year the directors of Bowman, Thompson & Co. had been seriously considering whether, on its expiration, such agreement should be renewed. If it was not they would require an additional capital of 100,000, in order to compete in the open market with any chance of success, and while he had no doubt the money would have been forthcoming, it would have meant a hard battle for some years before they could expect any remunerative return on their extra capital, and the battle would have been waged against those with whom they had hitherto been associated. Such a state of antagonism was not at all desirable in the interests of a friendly

working, as well as because of the cutting down of prices and the reduction of the already small margin of profits, with consequently lessened dividends to the shareholders.

Production of Ipecac.

The *Society of Arts Journal* has been at it again, in giving information regarding the production of ipecacuanha in Brazil. This information is based upon a report by the French commercial agent at Cuyaba, in the State of Matto Grosso. He tells all about the ipecacuanha plant, but has got somewhat mixed in regard to the varieties. It is remarked that "the State of Matto Grosso is one of the richest in Brazil, among its many natural products being gold and diamonds, rubber, sarsaparilla, jalap, jaborandi, copaiba, various gums, and drugs of several kinds. Ipecacuanha is found in the north and north-west of the San Luiz-de-Caceres, formerly in the Villa Maria region, and its habitat covers an immense area comprised between a network of rivers in Brazil, Bolivia, and Paraguay." Some information is also given in regard to the drug that is not quite accurate, and is doubtless due to erroneous information obtained by the French commercial agent. In the early part of last year we published an authentic account of the gathering of ipecacuanha, by an Englishman who had resided for many years in the district.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

On the whole, business in the heavy-chemical market is quieter, although some main products, and particularly bleaching-powder and caustic soda, are in heavier request. Orders against existing contracts keep coming in fairly regularly, but the actual new business which is being transacted is not very heavy, nor is it likely to be now until after the holidays. Export business is fairly good. Values generally keep a firm tone and are likely to be well maintained for some time to come. A drop in sal ammoniac is, however, to be reported, this product now standing 20s. per ton lower. Carbolic acids are also somewhat lower, whilst benzols are, if anything, firmer.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder is in strong demand, and price is firm with tendency towards advance. Softwood casks, 67. 10s. to 67. 15s. per ton, free on rails, and 67. 12s. 6d. to 67. 15s., f.o.b. Tyne or Liverpool. Caustic soda in heavier request, and very firm, 76 to 77 per cent, 117. 5s. to 117. 10s.; 70 per cent, 107. 5s. to 107. 7s. 6d.; and 60 per cent, 97. 5s. to 97. 7s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Ammonia alkali moving well, and is firm at 47. 12s. 6d. per ton, free on rails in bags, and 47. 15s. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Soda-crystals are in heavier request at unaltered rates of 27. 17s. 6d. to 37. per ton, Tyne, and 37. 2s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Bicarbonate of soda in steady demand at 67. 7s. 6d. per ton in 5-cwt. casks, and 77. per ton 1-cwt. kegs, f.o.b. Liverpool. Sodium sulphate, Glauber's salts unchanged at 30s. to 32s. 6d. per ton in bags. Chlorates are firmer, and somewhat scarce; Chlorate of potash $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., and soda $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. to $4\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. Yellow prussiate of potash maintains a fairly steady tone, but demand is not quite so brisk as of late. Best Lancashire makes are still quoted at 8d. to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Salts continue rather quiet at 24s. to 25s. per ton, free on rails in bulk. Soda-ash steady, and moving well, 52 per cent, 57. 5s. to 57. 10s. per ton, f.o.b. Tyne. Hyposulphite of soda very firm at unchanged rates, $\frac{1}{2}$ -cwt. casks, 67. 15s. to 77. 2s. 6d. per ton, and 1-cwt. kegs, 77. 10s. to 77. 17s. 6d. per ton. Silicates of soda meet with steady demand and prices tend dearer, 140° Tw, 47. to 47. 7s. 6d.; 100° Tw, 37. 15s. to 47. 2s. 6d.; 75° Tw, 37. 7s. 6d. to 37. 12s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool, or Tyne in usual casks, with customary extras for other packages.

SAL AMMONIAC lower, 397. and 377. per ton respectively for firsts and seconds.

RECOVERED SULPHUR steady at 47. 15s. to 57. 2s. 6d. per ton in bags free on rails.

SOUTH DURHAM SALT in good request, and price is well maintained at 11s. 3d. per ton, f.o.b. Tees.

PHOSPHORUS.—Unchanged; wedges, 2s.; sticks, 2s. 1d. per lb.; amorphous, 2s. 6d. per lb.

SATIN WHITE moving steadily at 57. 5s. to 57. 15s. per ton in usual casks on rails.

SATINITE is unchanged, 37. 2s. 6d. to 37. 12s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, May 31.

The near approach of the Whitsuntide holidays and the recent news from the seat of war have had a subduing influence upon business generally, and the volume of transactions during the week has not been large.

CASTOR OIL.—Good Calcutta seconds fully maintains the advance on the spot, and, notwithstanding an arrival of 525 cases by the *Politician*, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. is still being paid for this grade. Quotations for forward delivery are appreciably higher for the week, and the quantities offered are very limited. French exhibits a slightly easier tendency, though sales of first-pressure on the spot are still being made at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. This figure is

also being asked for Belgian and English of first pressure. Second-pressure French and English are held for 3½d. per lb.

HONEY.—Values are not notably changed. Some "No Pile" Chilean, part of a recent import, realised 21s. 6d. per cwt. Pile 3 is held for 22s. 3d.; pile 2, 24s. 6d.; pile 1, 25s. 6d.; and sales of Pile X are reported at 32s. 6d. per cwt. Californian is still unchanged at 40s. to 46s. per cwt.

QUILLATA-BARK.—Sales are reported at 13l. 10s. per ton, but the volume of business is not large.

GINGER (AFRICAN).—Thirty-four tons of Sierra Leone are reported having been sold at 22s. 6d. per cwt. in transit, but prime quality on the spot has sold at 27s. 6d. per cwt. A parcel of Monravian at auction realised 22s.

CANARY-SEED.—The market is flat at 34s. to 34s. 6d. per quarter for bright Turkish. Fifty bags of Morocco offered at auction, and were bought in at 43s. per quarter, no bid being forthcoming.

BEESWAX.—For eight packages mixed grey and yellow Chilean 7l. 5s. per cwt. was bid at auction, but the parcel was withdrawn at 7l. 10s. The quantity available now is very limited.

GUM ACACIA SORTS.—Fresh arrivals are reported, and 70s. to 80s. per cwt. is asked, according to quality.

POTASHES continue in steady demand at 25s. 6d. per cwt., while pearlashes are obtainable at 32s. 6d. per cwt.

LINSEED has become exceedingly flat, in consequence of the indifference of crushers, and holders show more disposition to give way in their ideas.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—A small business is passing, and good Egyptian are obtainable at 6s. to 6s. 6d. per cwt., according to quality.

TURMERIC.—A sale is reported of 1 ton split Cochin bulb at 11s. per cwt.

SCAMMONY-ROOT.—For available stocks on this market 40s. to 50s. per cwt. is asked.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, May 28.

Business in general is very quiet at present, and the drug-market makes no exception to the rule, only a few articles meeting with any interest.

AGAR AGAR is firm, at 365m. per 100 kilos.

CITRIC-ACID has advanced to 300m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) is dearer, refiners having raised their quotations again to-day, and now ask 490m.; in second-hand 485m. per 100 kilos. is asked.

CEVADILLA-SEED is quiet and easier with sellers to-day, at 72½m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE is unchanged and without demand, at 320m. to 315m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium is quiet, at 480m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is dull of sale, at 17m. per kilo.

OPIMUM is quiet; a few cases were offered to-day at 16½m. per kilo.

QUININE is neglected and prices are unchanged.

SPRIT OF TURPENTINE is very firm and scarce for spot-delivery; June offers at 83m., July at 75m., and August to December delivery, 72½m. per 100 kilos.

WAX (JAPANESE) is firmer, at 58m. per 100 kilos.

OILS.—Cod-liver is very quiet at 80m. per barrel. Linseed oil is easier, only spot oil being in demand. Rape oil is firm, but cottonseed oil is dull. Castor oil is slow of sale, at 63m. per 100 kilos. for first-pressing in barrels.

ESSENTIAL OILS show very little business just now.

PEPPERMINT OIL is quiet, at 5.05m. per lb. for H.G.H.; Japanese, at 7½m. per kilo.

CASSIA OIL is quiet and unchanged.

American Drug Market.

New York, May 22.

Business continues of average volume, and is wholly of a routine character. There is a total absence of speculative movements.

BALSAM PERU is again easier after a temporary revival. Holders quote \$1.25 to \$1.30 per lb.

BUCHU-LEAVES are very quiet, and weak in sympathy with the London market; short are obtainable at 15c., and long green at 16c. per lb.

CAMPHOR has advanced 1c., and is offered at 59½c. in barrels, and 60c. in cases. Japanese is firm at 61c. to 62c. in cakes.

CINCHONIDINE.—Manufacturers quote 32c. per oz., but packages in second-hands are obtainable at 30c.

COCA-LEAVES.—Truxillo are plentiful, but quotations are steady at 20c. per lb.

ERGOT continues weak, and supplies are freely obtainable, at 42c. for German, and 60c. per lb. for Spanish.

GOLDEN-SEAL ROOT (HYDRASTIS).—Old fall-dug root is firmly held at 54c. per lb., and supplies are very light. New spring-dug root is offered to arrive at 47c. This is, however, generally regarded as of inferior quality.

IPECACUANHA (RIO) is still obtainable at \$3 to \$3.10, according to quality.

JALAP.—Supplies are concentrated in firm hands, and 11½c. to 12c. is now generally asked. Packages are obtainable at 11c.

OPIMUM is very dull, and prices have again eased off, \$3.12½ being accepted for case lots.

SARSAPARILLA.—Mexican is easier owing to fresh arrivals. The demand is light, and supplies are obtainable at 7½c.

SERPENTARIA.—Old root is scarce, and quotations are firm at 37c. to 38c. per lb. New crop to arrive is offered at 36c.

Japanese Market.

Yokohama, May 3.

[The Exchange-rates in Yokohama at the date of writing were:—1 yen, London, on demand, 2s. 0½d.; Paris, on demand, 2.54½f.; New York, on demand, 49½c.; and Germany, on demand, 2.06½m. One yen=100 sen. The weight-equivalents used in this report are:—1 catty=1½ lb.; 1 picul=133½ lbs.]

Business remains dull generally, almost all transactions being of a hand-to-mouth character. In export staples, menthol and peppermint oil are very quiet at unchanged rates, with a downward tendency. In ginger there has been a transaction of 50 piculs for Bombay at 11.45 yen per picul. An exporter, having received an order for 600 piculs, tried to secure a shade below this figure, but in vain, as holders have now advanced their quotations, in anticipation of higher rates from the producing-districts. Aniseed still scarce at 12 yen per picul. For galls there is no active demand at present, 25.50 yen per picul is quoted for second quality, while for best, without sticks, 27 yen per picul is wanted. Chillies are scarce with buyers at 9.50 yen per picul for common, and 11 yen per picul for fair quality. Isinglass is very firm at 90 yen per picul for fair, 85 yen for medium, and 79 yen for common. Refined camphor is very firm at 1.02 yen per lb. for 1-oz. tablets. Iodine preparations are a shade easier, on account of appearance of new stuff: the present quotations are 3.95 yen per lb. for potassium iodide; 3.90 yen per lb. for crude iodine; 5.50 yen per lb. for iodoform; and 5.20 yen per lb. for re-sublimed iodine, all of P.J. quality. The exportations of iodide preparations to Chinese coasts and Europe have greatly increased of late years, owing to the steady progress of the iodine industry in this country. Meanwhile there is a monthly importation of some 3,000 lbs. from Germany.

In import articles the tendency is generally dull owing to the over-importation of various articles. The demand and supply are greatly disproportioned, the result of which is general inactivity, strengthened by want of money. It is said that since January Japan has exported some forty million yen of hard cash. Carbolic acid has declined on account of arrivals, and the present quotation is 48 to 49 sen per lb. in 1-cwt. tins, without any business of importance. Cocaine is firmly held at 8.75 yen per oz. for 100-oz. lots. Notwithstanding recent speculative purchases in quinine the market is still dull with sellers at 65c. per oz. for sulphate, and 95c. per oz. for hydrochlorate in 1,000-oz. lots. Pot. bichromate is lifeless at 18 sen per lb. in barrels; five tons have changed hands at 17½ sen per lb. Pot. chlor. has declined owing to heavy importation; the present quotation is 15 yen per cwt. for wholesale lots. Bismuth subnitrate is dull of sale at 2.60 yen per lb. in bulk, and price is not likely to advance. Borax is firm at 13 yen per picul, while for boric acid 16.75 yen per cwt. is quoted.

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, May 31, 10.55 A.M.:—The weather still continues to hinder the progress of the fishing at Finmarken, but the catch is considered fair notwithstanding. The total up to date amounts to 30,515,000 fish, against 29,589,000 fish at the corresponding period of last year. This is expected to yield 25,200 barrels of crude oil, against 27,670 barrels at the corresponding period of last year. There are now offers of medicinal oil at 72s. per barrel, f.o.b., Bergen, but the market is almost inactive.

HAMBURG, May 30, 12.10:—Refined camphor is very firm, at 485m. per 100 kilos. Japanese wax is firmer, at 58m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver oil is dull of sale.

SMYRNA, May 31, 10 A.M.:—The opium-market is very firm, and for good qualities higher prices are now asked. The sales for the week amount to 25 cases.

NEW YORK, May 31, 2.48 P.M.:—This market has shown a steady improvement during the past week. Opium is selling at \$3.10 per lb., but is dull. Buchu-leaves are weak at 14c. per lb., and citric acid is tending higher, to-day's quotation being 40c. per lb. Rio ipecacuanha is also higher at \$3.10, and American bleached beeswax is firmer at 30c. per lb. Sassafras at 8c. and serpentry-root at 32c. per lb. are easier. Damiana-leaves are steady at 8½c., and ergot of rye is decidedly weak at 40c. per lb.

London Markets.

ACID, CARBOLIC, is quoted at $10\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $11d.$ per lb. for 39° to 40° C. crystals, and $10d.$ to $10\frac{1}{4}d.$ for 34° to 35° C. Cresylic 95 per cent. is $1s. 4d.$ to $1s. 6d.$ per gallon, and 60-per-cent. crude $2s. 7d.$ to $2s. 8d.$, and 75 per cent. $3s.$ to $3s. 1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gallon. The tendency is still easy.

ACID, CITRIC. — A steady trade is being done. On Tuesday $1s. 4\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. was paid in several directions, but on Wednesday $1s. 4\frac{3}{4}d.$ was the lowest figure. Makers are not selling for forward delivery.

ALOES. — Quiet. It is expected that about 300 to 400 boxes of Curaçao aloes from the same source, and of similar quality to those offered last week, will be placed in the next drug-sale.

ARSENIC is a fairly strong market, at $21l.$ per ton, spot, for best white English powder.

BENZONIN. — There has been a good inquiry for Sumatra benzoïn, chiefly from the home trade, at prices ranging from $7l. 10s.$ to $8l.$ for fair seconds. Some 50 cases of Palembang seconds in tins have arrived this week, also 7 cases of Siam.

CAMPHOR. — On Monday the German refiners advanced their prices for bells and flowers by $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb., and now quote ton-lots at $2s. 2\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb. for prompt delivery and $2s. 3\frac{1}{4}d.$ for forward. The English refiners have made no move as yet. Crude has been very quiet, there being second-hand sellers of Japanese crude at $192s. 6d.$ per cwt. on the spot. The quotation of the agents for the monopoly is $178s. 6d.$, c.i.f., for forward delivery, and $197s. 6d.$ for semi-refined. It is reported that the combined refiners on the Continent have purchased a considerable quantity from the monopoly for joint account for June and July delivery, and that negotiations for July-August shipment are pending. An advance of $3s. 6d.$ per cwt. is said to have been paid, which is given as the reason for the higher price now asked for refined.

Hong-Kong advices, dated April 27, report that after several fluctuations the price is now again at $\$95$. The stock on that date was 2,500 cases, and sales for the fortnight 1,275 cases. The exports from Canton and Hong-Kong from January 1 to April 4 had been 8,847 boxes, against 11,102 boxes for the same period of 1899 and 4,976 boxes for 1898.

CINCHONA. — The exports from Ceylon for the week ending May 7 were 5,393 lbs.; from January 1 to May 7 they have been 136,468 lbs., as against 141,801 lbs.

CINNAMON. — The usual quarterly sales were held last Monday, when a moderate quantity was offered. The first catalogue (containing one-third of the whole) passed unsold, the importers being firm, but the buyers were able to get what they wanted out of subsequent sale, at a reduction of $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per lb. on the prices paid in February last.

The following prices were paid: — Firsts, unworked, good, $1s.$ to $1s. 1d.$ per lb.; ordinary to fair, $10\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $11\frac{1}{2}d.$; coarse, $9\frac{1}{2}d.$; seconds, fair to good, $10\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $11d.$; and coarse to ordinary, $9\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $10d.$; thirds, good, $10\frac{1}{2}d.$; fair, $10d.$; ordinary, $9\frac{1}{2}d.$; and coarse, $8\frac{1}{2}d.$; fourths, fair, $9d.$; ordinary, $8d.$ to $8\frac{1}{2}d.$; and very coarse, $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ Worked, firsts, fine, $1s. 5d.$; superior, $1s. 8d.$; seconds, fine, $1s. 3d.$; superior, $1s. 7d.$; and thirds, fine to superior, $s. 2d.$ to $1s. 6d.$ per lb.

CREAM OF TARTAR remains very firm and in good demand. Best white crystals are quoted at $75s.$ to $76s.$ per cwt. and powder at $77s.$; 98 per cent. (B.P.) is $80s.$ per cwt.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD. — Further sales of the fine picked lump auction of last week have been made at $14l.$ per cwt. There is very little of this grade now left. Six cases of lump are about landing.

GALLS have been in slightly more inquiry, blue Persian selling on the spot at full values, while for a parcel "to arrive" $85s.$ per cwt. has been paid. Green can be had at $5s.$, but the high prices asked for white preclude business.

The exports from Bussorah and Baghdad in 1899 were 11,899 bags (59,495 $\frac{1}{2}l.$), against 10,550 bags (52,750 $\frac{1}{2}l.$) in 1898.

GAMBOGE moves off slowly, no sales of importance having been made since the auction. Good clean Siam pipe is worth $8l. 15s.$ per cwt.

GLYCERIN keeps firm at from $58s.$ to $59s.$ per cwt. for English, and from $61s.$ to $64s.$ for German double-distilled quality.

GUM TRAGACANTH. — There is no improvement in the demand, although holders are willing to give slight concessions. Prices are unchanged, firsts being quoted at $14l. 5s.$ to $14l. 10s.$, and seconds at $12l. 10s.$ to $13l. 10s.$ per cwt.

JALAP. — There is a good deal of talk and mystery surrounding this drug, which has been neglected for many months past so far as this market is concerned. It is said that operators in the United States have been buying heavily of late, and it is reported that no more is to be had in first hands in New York. The consequence is that holders on this market have advanced their prices, and it is now difficult to buy good sound Vera Cruz tuber under $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb., and one holder asks $9d.$ There seems to be a fair amount of stock here, to which may be added 43 bags per *Ophelia* from Hamburg. Some purchases were made for New York account previous to the advance at $5\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $6d.$

LIME-JUICE. — Raw West Indian is quoted $1s. 5d.$ to $1s. 6d.$ per gal. in wholesale quantities.

MASTICH. — A few cases have been sold this week at $1s. 5d.$ per lb. for clean pale tear. The stock here remains large.

MUSK. — The exports from Ichang during 1899 were 3,527 lbs. (99,187 $\frac{1}{2}l.$), against 3,953 lbs. (63,536 $\frac{1}{2}l.$) in 1898, or an increase in value and decrease in quantity.

OIL, BERGAMOT, is firmly held at from $7s. 9d.$ to $7s. 10d.$ per lb., c.i.f., for 38-per-cent. oil.

OIL, CASTOR. — Steady at $38s.$ to $39s.$ per cwt., c.i.f., for medicinal Italian. French first-pressing is $29l. 10s.$ per ton, f.o.b. Marseilles, and medicinal $31l. 10s.$ Belgian first-pressing, spot, $31l. 10s.$, and second-pressing $29l.$ Hull make, medicinal, $34l.$ per ton in barrels, $4\frac{1}{4}d.$ per lb. in cases. Pure firsts, $31l. 10s.$, seconds, $29l. 10s.$ per ton, in barrels; firsts, $3\frac{1}{10}d.$ per lb. in cases, and seconds $3\frac{7}{10}d.$ ex wharf London.

OIL, COD-LIVER. — There has been a small business this week at $75s.$ per barrel, c.i.f., and there are several sellers at this figure. A postcard-advice from Bergen, dated May 28, quotes $74s.$, c.i.f., London, for best steam-refined oil.

BERGEN, May 26. — The catch of cod at Finmarken is steadily increasing in spite of stormy weather. The total result to date for that district is about one and a half million fish ahead of the catch at the same time last year. The market still remains weak at $75s.$ per barrel, f.o.b., for Lofoten non-congealing oil. Of this grade about 3,000 barrels less than last year have so far been manufactured. We also had a stock of about 5,000 barrels left over from 1898, while at the beginning of 1900, the old stock was practically nil. There is therefore very little chance of lower prices later on, unless there should be an unexpectedly large improvement in the fishing, which is hardly to be looked for so late in the season. The statistics to date show an export from Bergen of 3,372 barrels, against 4,736 barrels at the same time last year.

H.M. Consul-General, in reporting upon the Norwegian cod-liver oil fishing for 1900, says that the total value of the catch in the Lofoten district amounted to 192,308 $\frac{1}{2}l.$ The number of fishermen engaged was 22,726, so that the season's receipts average about $8l. 9s.$ per head. The season is the worst ever known in Lofoten in proportion to the number of fishermen engaged. In some cases in Christiania the payment of taxes by fishermen has not been forced.

OILS, FIXED. — Linseed is lower, barrels on the spot being quoted at $33s. 6d.$ per cwt., and pipes at waterside $33s. 6d.$ Rape is easier at $31s.$ for refined on the spot. Cotton is unchanged at $23s. 9d.$ to $24s. 9d.$ per cwt. in ordinary casks Fine Lagos palm oil is $6d.$ lower, at $26s. 6d.$ per cwt. Coconut is unchanged, at $28s.$ for Cochin on the spot, and $25s.$ for Ceylon in pipes.

OIL, JUNIPER, is quoted $1s. 9d.$ per lb., c.i.f. for single refined.

OIL, LEMON. — Our Messina correspondent writes, on May 23, that the rise is becoming more pronounced, and that $3s. 4d.$ per lb., c.i.f., has been paid for best oil. It is not expected that lower prices will be seen this year. One agent on this market is asking from $3s. 5d.$ to $3s. 6d.$ for B.P. quality, and there is a fair amount of business doing.

OIL, ORANGE. — Rather quiet at from $6s. 9d.$ to $6s. 11d.$ per lb., c.i.f. according to seller.

OIL, ROSEMARY. — For genuine French oil $2s. 9d.$ per lb. is asked.

OPIUM. — There is a fair demand for "druggists" qualities,

which are quoted at from 9s. 3d. to 9s. 9d. per lb. In "soft-shipping" small sales have been at from 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d., and stocks here are very low. There is a small inquiry for fine Persian, which is held for 13s. 6d. per lb.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 25.—Fifteen cases Karahissar opium were taken by a London speculator this week at the equivalent of 8s. 5d. per lb., f.o.b. All that remains here now consists of 10 to 15 cases of druggists', and 30 cases Malatia and other "soft-shipping" grades. Stocks in Constantinople have never been so low. The new-crop prospects continue excellent.

SMYRNA, May 8.—On a slight concession having been granted by weak dealers, an American buyer came forward this week and secured 25 cases of new (1899 crop) Karahissar talequale at 8s. 6d. to 8s. 7d. per lb. The large holders not only refuse to sell at the above figures, but will not also acknowledge them. They still quote about 4d. per lb. over the above, the current quotations, which are as under:—Current talequale for manufacturing, 8s. 5d. to 8s. 6d.; selected ditto, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 7d.; extra selected, free of seconds, 9s. to 9s. 4d.; slightly talequale, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 7d. There is very little stuff to be found among the weak holders, but there is still some 700 to 800 cases in the hands of the "bull party." The crop news continues to be satisfactory, and in fifteen or twenty days the first arrivals from the lowlands may be expected. The Karahissar and upper districts will not begin harvesting their opium before the end of June. Anyway, new opium cannot be fit for shipment until the middle of July next, so until then the "bull" holders will obtain full prices for what little they sell.

ORRIS.—Private advices from Leghorn report that the first-hand stocks of Florentine root are practically exhausted. The syndicate with the aid of the bank are not sellers, and are already negotiating to purchase the whole of the new crop, which will not be a large one. The parcels in second-hand are only small. Holders outside the syndicate quote picked Florentine root at 56s., "sorts" 53s., and small white 52s. per cwt., c.i.f., and Verona at from 24s. to 28s., according to quality. On this market there are sellers of picked Florentine at 56s., but holders here are by no means strong.

POTASH BICHROMATE has a slightly easier tendency at 3½d. per lb. spot.

POTASH PERMANGANATE is in more inquiry. Second-hand sellers ask from 47s. 6d. per cwt. and upwards for small crystals.

POTASH PRUSSATE is a firm market, and makers are sold well ahead; for spot delivery 5½d. per lb. is quoted.

QUICKSILVER has been in good demand this week at 97. 10s. per bottle from the importers. There is little or no secondhand.

QUININE has been extremely quiet throughout the week, and on several days no business whatever was reported. The spot price in second hands on Wednesday was 1s. 3d. per oz., but on Thursday there was a slight recovery, 1s. 3½d. being paid for June, and buyers at 1s. 3½d. for August, but no sellers under 1s. 3½d. Buyers are awaiting the figures for the bark shipments from Java, which will be known on Friday. It is asserted that the statistical position of bark and quinine does not justify the prevalent weak tendency. The forthcoming Amsterdam sales will be small, and the stock of bark in London is also very low.

According to reports from Java, the quinine auctions to be held at Batavia on June 27 will consist of 4,989 kilos. (174,615 oz.). About 3,969 kilos. (350 cases of 400 oz. each = 140,000 oz.) are of English packing, and 760 kilos. (33,600 oz.) to be packed at buyers' option. The quality of the above 4,729 kilos. is, according to Ed. II. of the Ph. Ned. Brit., in addition to which 260 kilos. (9,100 oz.) Ed. III. will be offered.

RHEBARB.—The exports from Ichang in 1899 were 1,102,400 lbs. (31,0057.), against 1,236,266 lbs. (27,563½) in 1898.

SAL AMMONIAC.—The English manufacturers have reduced their quotations 1s. per cwt., firsts now being quoted at 39s., and seconds at 37s.

SANTONIN.—Buyers are now said to be paying makers full price, which is 11s. 3d. per lb. Second-hand stocks are practically exhausted, though possibly a little might be obtainable at 10s. 7½d.

SEEDS.—Very little business has been done. Russian *Anise* sells at 20s. per cwt., gross weight. Dutch *Caraways* are steady at 28s. per cwt. for good quality, and Russian for grinding are offering at 24s. 6d. *Coriander* steady, at 10s. 6d. to 11s. per cwt. for Morocco. *Cumin* firm, but slow

of sale. *Canary* is in more request, at 31s. per quarter for Turkish. *Fenugreek* quiet, at 6s. 6d. per cwt.

SPICES.—A quiet tone has continued to prevail, and transactions have been few. The usual public sales were not held this week on account of the Derby. Zanzibar *Cloves* are lower, business having been done for August–October delivery at 31½d. per lb., and for January–March at 31½d. per lb. *Pepper* is stagnant, but prices are fairly maintained; Singapore black is quoted 6½d. on the spot, and 6½d. for April–June shipment; Singapore white is nominally worth 9½d. per lb., and Penang white has been sold at 8½d.

SUGAR OF MILK.—American powder of best quality is quoted 55s. per cwt., spot.

SULPHONAL.—Makers are firm at the official quotation of 20s. 6d. per lb., it now being difficult to find any second-hand sellers.

VANILLA.—At auction about 600 tins were offered, of which the bulk sold with a steady demand at irregular rates. Sound plump beans brought full prices. The following were some of those paid:—

Seychelles, firsts, fair to good plump, part crystallised, 8½ to 9 inches, 22s. to 23s.; 7½ to 8½ inches, 19s. to 23s. 6d.; 6½ to 7 inches, 17s. to 20s.; 5½ to 6½ inches, 16s. to 19s.; 4½ to 5½ inches, 15s. to 17s. 6d.; 4 to 4½ inches, 15s. 6d.; split, good, 17s. to 19s.; ditto, ordinary, 8s. to 16s. 6d.; foxy, 8s. 6d. to 12s. 6d.; and pickings, 9s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. Bourbon, 7½ to 8½ inches, 20s.; 6½ to 7 inches, 19s. to 19s. 6d.; 5½ to 6½ inches, 18s. to 18s. 6d.; 4½ to 5½ inches, 17s. 6d.; 4 to 4½ inches, 16s. 6d. Mauritius, 5½ to 6½ inches, 18s.; brown and common, 2½ to 7 inches, 12s. 6d. Madagascar, 6½ to 7 inches, 16s.; and 5½ to 6½ inches, 15s. A Mauritius report, dated April 27, states that the next crop is estimated at from 4,000 to 5,000 kilos.

Coming Events.

Thursday, June 7.

The Röntgen Society, at 8 p.m. Meeting at the electrical department (entrance, Smithfield), St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 p.m. Papers will be read on "Diphenyl- and diallyl-ethylenediamines, their nitro-derivatives, nitrates, and mercuriochlorides," by Mr. W. S. Mills; "Condensation of ethyl acetylenedicarbonylate with bases and B-ketonic esters," by Dr. S. Ruhemann and Mr. H. E. Stapleton, B.A.; "The constitution of picrocarpine," by Dr. H. A. D. Jowett; "The nitrogen chlorides derivable from m-chloroacetanilide and their transformations," by Dr. F. D. Chattaway, Dr. K. J. P. Orton, and Mr. W. H. Hurlley; "Derivatives of cyanocamphor and homocamphoric acid," by Dr. A. Lapworth.

Friday, June 8.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 p.m. Dr. Allan Macfadyen on "The Effect of Physical Agents on Bacterial Life."

MR. HENRY STEVENS JONES, dispenser at the Royal Naval Hospital, Haulbowline, died this week from malarial fever, at the age of 43. He was a son of the late Mr. H. S. Jones, Fulham Road, one of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Society.

FOR SELLING "CAMPHOLEUM," Frederick High, a Dulwich oilman, was fined 10s. and 17s. 6d. costs at the Lambeth Police Court on Thursday, May 31. It contained about a fourth of the camphor required in ol. camph. B.P., and was made with mineral oil. His defence was that he did not sell it as camphorated oil, but for what it was.

LEGUMINOUS FERMENTS.—In a paper on this subject *Journal de Pharm. et de Chimie* Bourquelot and Hérissey show that the seeds of certain leguminous plants contain a soluble ferment of definite characters, in addition to diastase, which they term seminaise. It is characterised as the "soluble ferment which determines the transformation of the carbohydrates of the hard reserve albumen of leguminous plants into assimilable sugars."

THE ACTION OF FERMENTS UPON ONE ANOTHER.—Harlay, whose name has long been associated with the study of the unorganised ferments, has made a somewhat exhaustive series of experiments (*Journal de Pharmacie*, 1900, 466) in order to determine what influence pancreatin and pepsin have upon papain, especially as these bodies are sometimes added to the latter. The conclusions he comes to are (1) that pancreatin and papain are without any action upon each other; their digestive powers are simply superadded when mixed; (2) pepsin has very little action on papain; (3) papain, in a neutral or slightly acid solution, partly destroys pepsin.

